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Will US policy turn on dime?

Amid force reduction and budget constraints, crisis in Mideast poses a 'Pacific Pivot' challenge

By **WYATT OLSON**

Stars and Stripes

President Barack Obama's decision to step up military operations against Islamic extremists in Iraq and Syria raises fresh doubts about the "Pacific Pivot"—a shift of military and diplomatic resources to a region Washington believes is the highest U.S. priority in decades to come.

Defense experts say it's too early to know whether the new U.S. commitment in the Middle East — from which resources were being shifted to the

ANALYSIS

Pacific — will stunt the ongoing rebalance. The boost in America's economic, diplomatic and military presence is well underway in the Pacific, a "whole-of-government" approach that analysts say likely won't diminish with months of airstrikes in Iraq and Syria.

But the military already has been dealing with force reductions with the winding down of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan amid deep budget cuts including across-the-board reductions imposed under sequestration. Without a major reversal of such cuts, the military is already headed toward tough decisions on what it can afford to do.

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ON PAGE 4**

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Islamic State group
calls for attacks
on civilians

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Suicide bombings
by militants kill
40 Iraqi soldiers

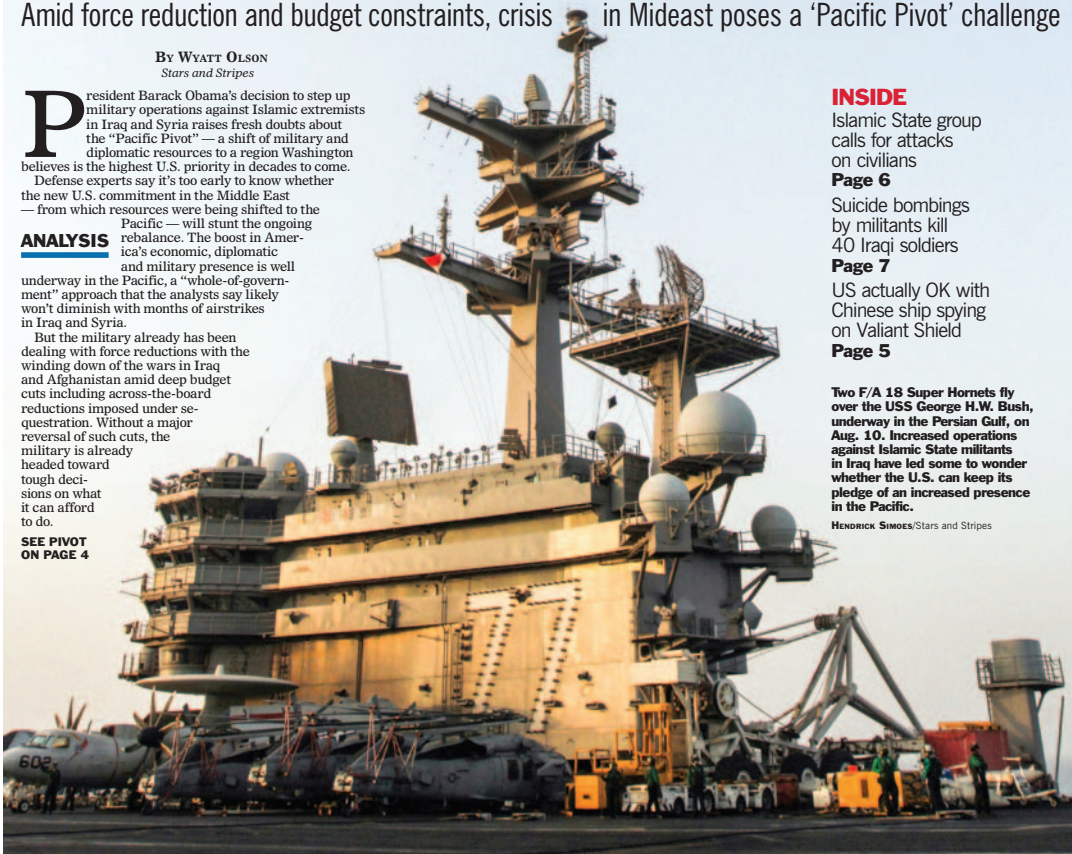
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US actually OK with
Chinese ship spying
on Valiant Shield

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Two F/A 18 Super Hornets fly
over the USS George H.W. Bush,
underway in the Persian Gulf, on
Aug. 10. Increased operations
against Islamic State militants
in Iraq have led some to wonder
whether the U.S. can keep its
pledge of an increased presence
in the Pacific.

HENDRICK SMOOES/Stars and Stripes



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We're going to lose our planet in the next generation if things continue this way."

— Bert Garskof, 81, a native New Yorker and professor of psychology at Connecticut's Quinnipiac University, who said he first heard about global warming in 1967, "when no one was paying much attention."

See story on Page 9

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3. US Army says farewell to Schweinfurt
4. Odierno: More troops in Afghanistan may get pink slips
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MILITARY



WILL GASKILL/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

A tugboat escorts the guided-missile cruiser USS Cowpens into Naval Base San Diego in April following its deployment.

Cowpens executive officer is relieved

By ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The executive officer of the USS Cowpens has been relieved, making him at least the

fifth senior leader in four years to be removed from the cruiser.

Commanding officer Capt. Scott Sciretta relieved Cmdr. Armando Ramirez on Thursday due to an alcohol-related incident, according to a Navy statement. Service officials declined to provide further detail.

Ramirez has been reassigned to Naval Surface Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Relieved officers are generally assigned to headquarters commands while the process determining the fates of their careers unfold.

Cmdr. Justin Harts will take over as executive officer for the Cowpens, according to the statement.

In June, Cowpens commanding officer Capt. Gregory W. Gombert and Command Master Chief Petty Officer Gabriel J.

Cmdr. Armando Ramirez is at least the fifth senior leader in four years to be removed from the cruiser.

Keaton were relieved for loss of confidence in their "ability to effectively lead and carry out their assigned duties," according to a prior Navy statement.

An investigation report later found that Gombert rarely left his cabin during a deployment "for more than a few minutes a day" for a period of between three weeks and two months, according to sailors interviewed in the report. Gombert, along with his acting executive officer at the time, were also disciplined at July administrative hearings.

In December, Cowpens and a Chinese navy vessel had a tense

encounter in the South China Sea that required the U.S. ship to avoid a collision.

The reliefs in recent months have continued a pattern of leadership troubles for the ship, which was based at Yokosuka before moving to San Diego last year.

In February 2012, commanding officer Robert Marin was relieved following reports of an extramarital affair. Before Marin, Capt. Holly Graf was relieved in 2010 after an investigation found she had verbally and physically abused sailors under her command.

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Correction

Because of an editing error, a Sept. 21 article about the Defense Department's information policies misidentified retired Rear Adm. Gregory Smith. He is the former top spokesman for the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, the Multi-National Force-Iraq and the U.S. Central Command.



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AFGHANISTAN

New leader to include women in key posts

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghanistan's new president-elect says he wants Afghan women represented at the highest levels of government, including on the Supreme Court.

Ashraf Ghani planned to hold his first news conference later Monday after being announced by the country's election commission Sunday as president. His opponent for president, Abdullah Abdullah, will fill the newly created role of chief executive in a national unity government.

Ghani said in a statement that he is committed to ensuring that women are well represented in government and the education and economic sectors. Ghani also said Afghans should remember that poverty, lack of education, income equality and insecurity are the country's enemies, and not their fellow citizens.

"This victory isn't just about winning an election. It's a victory for democracy, for our constitution and for our future," Ghani said. "Together, we have turned the page and written a new chapter in our long and proud history — the first peaceful democratic transition between one elected president and another."

The announcement by the election commission that Ghani had won the nearly six-month election process came only hours after he and Abdullah signed a power-sharing deal following negotiations.

The deal allowed the international community — including the U.S. and NATO — to breathe a sigh of relief, as the settlement greatly decreases the chances of ethnic vote violence. Ghani also pledged to sign a security agreement that would allow about 10,000 U.S. military trainers and advisers to remain in the country next year after all U.S. and NATO combat troops withdraw.

To the annoyance of many Afghans, the election commission did not officially release vote totals of the June runoff — ballots that underwent a long audit for fraud — when it announced Ghani as the winner. Leaked results showed Ghani won about 55 percent and Abdullah roughly 45 percent of the vote.



Supporters of Afghan presidential candidate Ashraf Ghani celebrate with music and dancing near his residence after he was named next president by the Afghan election commission. Ghani has said he will sign a security agreement to keep U.S. forces in Afghanistan, but the timing is not clear.

Timetable uncertain for signing of security pact

By SLOBODAN LEKIC

Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Ashraf Ghani will be inaugurated next week as president of Afghanistan, but it remains uncertain how soon he might sign a long-awaited security agreement that will set the terms for U.S. forces to remain in the country into next year.

The inauguration is set for next Monday, officials said, capping a lengthy and fraught election process in which Ghani and his rival in the June runoff election, Abdullah Abdullah, accused each other of fraud.

Ghani pledged on Monday to work for the "prosperity, development and peace of the country."

"We are tired of bloodshed," he told several hundred supporters, members of parliament and dignitaries in a speech carried on national television.

The protracted election process, which included a U.N.-sponsored audit of the 8 million ballots cast, worried U.S. and NATO officials, who have been counting on the new president to sign a Bilateral Security Agreement that will allow U.S. and international forces to stay after the combat mission ends in December.

Current President Hamid Karzai has refused to sign the agreement, leaving that to his successor.

Both Ghani and Abdullah have

said in the past that they would sign the agreement, which would allow nearly 10,000 U.S. and 2,000-3,000 troops from other countries to remain, primarily as advisers and instructors. NATO has a similar agreement with Afghanistan awaiting signature.

A U.S. diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter, said Ghani had confirmed his intent to sign the Bilateral Security Agreement promptly after inauguration. "The signing of the BSA remains a top U.S. and Afghan priority," the official said.

Ghani's election was announced just hours after he and Abdullah concluded a far-reaching agreement on a national unity government.

It envisions a new post of cabinet chief executive and sweeping constitutional reforms. Abdullah or one of his nominees is expected to fill the powerful new position, which both candidates had agreed to in principle after meetings last month with Secretary of State John Kerry.

"Abdullah and his team will remain with us," Ghani said in his speech. "They will be close colleagues with us in the government."

Haleem Fidayee, a senior member of Ghani's election team, said the inauguration ceremony would be held next Monday. That was confirmed by international officials in Kabul.

Fidayee said it was unclear when the election commission would release the final vote tally.

He also said the two candidates and their aides had been "totally consumed" in recent weeks by negotiations on the power-sharing deal and had not had time to consider when the Bilateral Security Agreement with the U.S. would be concluded.

The NATO-led international coalition, which numbered about 150,000 three years ago, still has 41,000 in Afghanistan — two-thirds of them Americans. Afghanistan's security forces number about 350,000 members.

This year has been the bloodiest on record for the Afghan army and police, now fully responsible for the country's security, as the Taliban have taken advantage of the long electoral impasse to launch a series of attacks across the nation.

The Taliban immediately rejected the new administration, calling it "a product of the sham election ... organized by the foreigners."

"It is not acceptable to Afghans by any means," a statement by the group said. "Jihad will continue in order to save Afghanistan from foreign occupation and pave the way for a real Islamic state."

Zubair Babarkhail contributed to this report. lekic.slobodan@stars.com

Say what?

A sample of reader comments from stripes.com



War zone firings: Is there a better way?

Army chief of staff Gen. Ray Odierno said Friday that more captains and majors face the prospect of learning while in Afghanistan that they are being forced out of the military due to shrinking budgets.

Readers respond:

Odierno suggested that it's better to notify soldiers as soon as possible, even if it means doing so while they're in a warzone, which has drawn heavy criticism from lawmakers. So...tell Odierno not to do it. Simple. Odierno has created his own problem, and he should change his idea of what is better.

— Don Bacon

How has Gen. Odierno created the problem? Congress and the President cut our funds and then to add insult to injury they dictated where the Army and Services had to take cuts (manning and readiness). They did this by preventing BRAC and funding acquisition programs the services don't want.

— XO18177

Believe it or not, back in the 1990's during that draw down, some army seniors did not have the guts to give the bad news to subordinates who were going to be let go per DA directive. They delegated that task to other subordinates.

— Rolly28

I saw a guy RfED during an NTC rotation in the 90s. The battalion commander was pretty decent about it though.

... Kicking people out of the service is never pleasant but it helps when decent people are in the mix doing the deed.

— CLB11267

I have worked for 3 different companies since getting out. Not one of those companies ever gave an advanced warning about lay-offs or flat out job terminations or eliminations. ... I always thought it was heartless but they got the pain over with quick. At least the military is giving people an advanced notice.

— Wally

Join the fray at: stripes.com/gpinkslips

3 Afghan soldiers go missing from training at US base

The Associated Press

CAMP EDWARDS, Massachusetts — As police and U. S. military officials searched for three Afghanistan National Army officers who went missing during a training exercise at a military base in Massachusetts, Gov. Deval Patrick said one of the possibilities being investigated is that they may be trying to find a way to stay in the United States.

The Defense Department does not believe that the ANA soldiers

are dangerous.

"We believe they are not a threat because we thoroughly vetted them," Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren told reporters Monday.

"There is a lot of speculation within the military that they may be trying to defect," Patrick told reporters while visiting a preschool program in Quincy.

"We don't know" why they went missing, Warren said. "We don't have a theory."

Lt. Col. James Sahady of the

Massachusetts National Guard said there were no details to report on the search Monday.

Warren said photos of the men have been provided to law enforcement. He does not know if they had access to any military vehicles or rental cars.

Military officials said the Afghans had been participating in a U.S. Central Command Regional Cooperation training exercise at Joint Base Cape Cod. They arrived at Camp Edwards earlier this month, and were last seen

Saturday at the Cape Cod Mall in Hyannis.

Warren said U.S. personnel were at the mall with the Afghans. The soldiers were reported missing by base security personnel Saturday night. They were identified as Maj. Jan Mohammad Arash, Capt. Mohammad Nasir Askarzada and Capt. Noorullah Aminyar.

Stars and Stripes reported Jon Harper contributed to this report.

PACIFIC

Pivot: Return of US forces to Mideast could complicate Asia-Pacific efforts

FROM FRONT PAGE

In his Sept. 10 speech to the nation, Obama seemed to be preparing the country for another long slog, calling the escalating U.S.-led military campaign against the jihadist Islamic State in Iraq a “steady, relentless effort” that he likened to the slow process of eradicating cancer.

No one, including Obama, really knows what that will entail. An air campaign is one thing. If, down the road, the campaign were to fail, involvement almost certainly would have to be stepped up, regardless of “no boots on the ground” statements today.

Obama came around reluctantly to military re-engagement in Iraq, particularly because he spent his first three years in office pulling the last U.S. troops out of the country to make good his campaign promise.

His hesitancy undoubtedly reflects concern over the fate of one of his highest priorities: the reinvigoration of American influence in the Asia-Pacific region.

America's partners, allies and adversaries in Asia could interpret the move in Iraq in dramatically different ways, experts say, regardless of reality.

Perception-versus-reality has plagued the rebalance initiative since it was first articulated by then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton during a speech to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in July 2010.

Questions about the actual scope of the rebalance — about what it is and isn't — have swirled since then.

“With each new personnel move in the Obama administration or crisis in another region come the perennial questions about waning American attention to the Asia-Pacific and whether the ‘pivot’ or ‘rebalance’ is ephemeral in nature,” wrote Kurt Campbell, head of the Asia Group and a former assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, last year.

Some Asian countries are now wondering the same, asking “whether the United States must necessarily pay less attention to Asia if we’re paying more attention to the Middle East,” said Denny Roy, a senior fellow at the East-West Center in Honolulu who focuses on Pacific security.

Their doubts come in part from how the administration originally “sold” the Asia shift as a “pivot,” implying that the U.S. was “going to start putting less emphasis on the Middle East because the war is winding down there, and therefore we’re going to put more attention on Asia,” Denny said.

“That was probably an inaccurate and probably unwise characterization to begin with, but that helps to reinforce the idea that there’s only a limited amount of U.S. attention to go around.”

Kenneth G. Lieberthal, a senior fellow in foreign policy at the Brookings Institution in Washington, has been critical of the “rebalance” terminology since it was first used because “it suggested that we had basically neglected Asia for a decade while we focused on the Middle East



PHOTOS BY HENDRICK SIMCOE/Stars and Stripes

An aircraft handler directs the pilot of an F/A-18 Hornet to the catapult of the USS George H.W. Bush in August in the Persian Gulf.



Ordnance is attached to an F/A-18 Hornet preparing to take off from the USS George H.W. Bush in support of an ongoing mission to suppress Islamic State militants in Iraq. Increased American involvement in Iraq could be interpreted by other countries as having an effect on U.S. efforts in the Asia-Pacific region.

and now we can neglect the Middle East in order to focus on Asia, with the assumption that we cannot both walk and chew gum at the same time.”

Still, the implications for rebalance — or “reinvigoration,” as he prefers to call it — in light of the U.S. return to Iraq are “complicated,” Lieberthal said.

“I don’t think it’s a matter of any effort that goes into one part of the world has to be taken away in that measure from some other part of the world,” he said. “I think what has always been at issue here is American statecraft, our ability to make smart decisions and execute them effectively, our focus, and the extent to which the issues that we are engaging in are seen to be at least broadly of interest, in this case, for those in East and Southeast Asia.”

China, which has criticized the

“I don’t think they see our dealing with Sunni radicalism in the Middle East as being either against their interests there or as an indication of our overall weakness or decline or inability to devote attention to East Asia,” he said.

Jihadist terrorist groups have operated in one degree or another for the past 15 years in the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, which was the scene of deadly bombings on the island of Bali in 2002 and 2005.

“I think countries in Southeast Asia are also paying a lot of attention to how we deal with this threat, who joins with us, and how smart we are — or not smart,” he said.

Of course, deeper involvement in Iraq by the U.S. could be cheered for all the wrong reasons. In commentary published this month in *The Diplomat*, Robert Dujarric, director of the Institute of Contemporary Asian Studies at Temple University in Tokyo, concluded, “For Beijing and Pyongyang, however, the more resources Americans invest in the War of the Iraqi Succession, the better it will be for them.”

Army Col. Bryan Truesdell, a former fellow at the Asia-Pacific

Center for Security Studies in Honolulu, where in the summer he authored an analysis of the military’s role in the rebalance, said America’s Asian partners look at actions more than rhetoric in judging the endurance of the rebalance.

At the operational levels of the pivot, “it is typically our actions and where we place our funding, where we build facilities, where we have provided cooperation” that are measured by other countries. Those efforts are now several years in the making and are unlikely to be sidetracked by Iraq operations.

As to whether Iraq — and possibly the Ukraine region — will siphon off resources that otherwise would have been devoted to Asia, “the jury is still out,” but the U.S. is still projecting its national power into the region economically, diplomatically and militarily, Truesdell said.

“I think we’re doing as well as we can to balance all of those approaches while we rebalance — certainly the Department of Defense is — toward the area that the president has deemed his highest priority, second only to the defense of the homeland,” he said.

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MILITARY

Chinese spy on exercise, and that's OK with US

By ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — A Chinese surveillance ship has been detected observing the Valiant Shield military exercise from within the United States' exclusive economic zone — a move the U.S. actually doesn't mind.

One Chinese auxiliary general intelligence vessel has been watching most of Valiant Shield since it began Sept. 15 in and around Guam, military officials said Monday.

The exercise, which ends Tuesday, involves 18,000 servicemembers from the Navy, Air Force, Marines and Army simulating combat against each other.

Valiant Shield comes in the midst of tensions in the Asia-Pacific region, much of which involve China's rapidly modernizing military and its territorial ambitions.

China stakes an ambiguous claim to about 90 percent of the South China Sea, including areas that most nations consider international waters.

In recent years, Chinese ships have harassed U.S. ships operating in the international waters that compose China's exclusive economic zone, or EEZ — mostly notably in 2009, when the USNS Impeccable was rammed by Chinese vessels.

Chinese ships have repeatedly been observed within United States' EEZ borders in the past year. U.S. officials have stated they hope the moves will persuade China to shift its position against foreign military movements in its EEZ.

"We'd like to reinforce that military



DECLAN BARNES/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Operations Specialist 2nd Class Omar Murrell, assigned to the guided missile destroyer USS Mustin, stands watch in the ship's combat information center during Valiant Shield. The exercise integrates Navy, Air Force, Army and Marine Corps assets.

operations in international commons and outside of territorial waters and airspace is a fundamental right that all nations have," Valiant Shield spokeswoman Lt. Cmdr. Kim Dixon said Monday. "The Chinese were following international norms, which is completely acceptable."

An EEZ extends as far as 200 nautical miles from a nation's borders. EEZs confer fishing, mining and other economic rights,

but they are not territorial waters belonging to any one country.

EEZs make up about one-third of the world's oceans. The United States and most other nations interpret international law to allow militaries to conduct surveillance in EEZs, but China and about 20 other nations generally see things differently.

On Aug. 19, a Chinese fighter jet intercepted a U.S. Navy P-8 flying 135 miles

from Hainan Island, within China's EEZ.

The armed jet performed a barrel roll and flew within 20 feet of the P-8's wingtip, Pentagon spokesman Rear Adm. John Kirby said Aug. 22.

Kirby condemned the "unsafe and unprofessional intercept, which posed a risk to the safety and the well-being of the air crew, and was inconsistent with customary international law."

Chinese officials said their pilot acted professionally and called on the U.S. to end "close-in" surveillance.

China also sent a surveillance ship to the EEZ surrounding Hawaii during the multinational Rim of the Pacific exercise this past summer. That decision, while in accordance with U.S. views on EEZs, surprised some military officials because China was also an exercise participant.

The Pentagon's annual report to Congress on China's military stated that Beijing is producing advanced long-range missiles and other weaponry to prevent access to large parts of the South and East China seas. The other country most often associated with an anti-access, area denial strategy is Iran.

Meanwhile, Iran's Press TV reported Saturday that Chinese naval ships have docked in Iran for the first time.

Iranian media reported that the ships arrived in Bandar Abbas for joint exercises. China's Xinhua news agency reported that the 17th Chinese escort naval fleet would be in Iran for five days.

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Group says it gave pot to hundreds of vets

DENVER — Hundreds of military veterans received free marijuana during a special giveaway in Denver designed to show that pot can help ease their pain.

Members of Operation Grow4Vets said the Saturday event aimed to offer veterans an alternative to prescription drugs to help with anxiety, pain and other problems. The organization also says it gave out 400 bags of marijuana-infused products at the Denver Cannabis Giveaway.

"We're really here to help them with their medical conditions," including post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, the group's founder, Roger Martin, himself a veteran, told KDVR-TV. "There's a wide variety of ailments. Anything that involves pain."

Pot critics questioned whether the event was safe. Colorado this year rejected marijuana as a treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder, so the condition is not on the list of ailments for which doctors can recommend medical marijuana. It is legal in the state to give away pot for free. Colorado also allows any adult over 21 to buy the drug in recreational stores.

Bob Doyle, of the Colorado Smart Approaches to Marijuana Coalition, said organizers of the event were reckless to give away a drug that can cause paranoia and might have other unforeseen side effects.

"Obviously things that we would not want somebody with PTSD to be experiencing," he said.

From The Associated Press



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WAR ON TERRORISM



MICHEL EULER/AP

Soldiers patrol at the Eiffel Tower in Paris on Monday. France's top security official said militants from the Islamic State group have threatened to kill civilians in the coalition of countries arrayed against the extremists.

Islamic State calls for civilian killings

By BASSEM MROUE
AND MAAMOUN YOUSSEF
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — Fighters of the Islamic State militant group are ready to battle a U.S.-led military coalition seeking to destroy it, the group's spokesman said in a new audio recording in which he called on Muslims worldwide to kill civilians of nations that join the fight.

American and French warplanes have carried airstrikes against the group, and President Barack Obama is working to form a global coalition to confront the group, which controls large parts of Syria and Iraq.

The United States has rallied some 40 countries to take part in fighting the extremist group and is also making plans to train up to 5,000 Syrian rebels in Saudi Arabia to be used in conjunction with potential U.S. airstrikes in Syria. In a nearly 42-minute audio statement released online late Sunday, Islamic State group spokesman Abu Mohammed al-Adnani said the coalition will not be able to defeat the jihadis. He called on Muslims everywhere to kill anyone whose country takes part in the attack.

"Oh, believer, do not let this battle pass you by wherever you may be," al-Adnani said. "You must strike the soldiers, patrons and troops of the tyrants. Strike their police, security and intelligence members."

"If you can kill a disbelieving American or European — especially the spiteful and filthy French — or an Australian, or a Canadian, or any other disbeliever from the disbelievers waging war, including the citizens of the countries that joined a coalition against the Islamic State, then rely upon Allah, and kill him in any manner or way however it may be," he said.

The statement was released

in Arabic by the Islamic State group's media arm, Al-Furqa, and appeared on militant sites used by the group. The speaker sounded like that of previous recordings attributed to al-Adnani.

Responding to al-Adnani's statement, French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said he is confident in the country's security.

"This threat to kill civilians, added to the execution of hostages and to the massacres, is yet another demonstration of the barbarism of these terrorists, justifying our fight without truce or pause," Cazeneuve said Monday. "France is not afraid because it is prepared to respond to their threats," he added.

The Islamic State group is an al-Qaida breakaway that has set up its own self-declared caliphate in areas it controls in Syria and Iraq. It rules by its harsh version of Islamic law.

The group has already beheaded two Americans and a British citizen it was holding. It is threatening to behead more Westerners.

Al-Adnani called on people to prevent their sons from joining rebels that the U.S. plans to train to fight the group. He said jihadis will make them "dig their graves with their own hands and have their heads cut off and homes destroyed."



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"We love to say yes"

Extremist groups finding online media to be potent recruiting tool

By TOM HAVES
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The latest issue of the digital magazine "Dabiq" features glossy photos of smiling militants from the Islamic State group, mutilated bodies on the battlefield and articles with titles such as, "There is No Life Without Jihad" and "Foley's Blood is on Obama's Hands."

It refers to Americans as "crusaders" and "apostates." And it insists "sincere Muslims" must help speed "the complete collapse of the modern American empire."

Authorities say the magazine — published in English and other languages and easily available on the Internet — has become a potent propaganda tool for the group to recruit Westerners. They also warn that the publication, along with other inflammatory messages and videos on Twitter and other social media, have the power to incite so-called lone wolves who hatch domestic plots such as the ones officials have alleged recently in Australia and upstate New York.

"That is a current threat — their ability to inspire people here in the United States who can't travel to Syria to fight, or inspire people to travel to Syria and while they're there, train them and inspire them to come home and commit terrorist acts," New York Police Department Commissioner William Bratton said

recently.

Australian authorities have detained suspects in an alleged plot to carry out random beheadings in Sydney. Across the globe, Mufid Elfigeeh, of Rochester, N.Y., pleaded not guilty to charges accusing him of trying to help three recruits get to the Mideast and plotting to kill members of the U.S. armed forces returning from war and Shiites in the Rochester area.

Terrorist propaganda on the Internet — and law enforcement's concern about it — isn't new. Since the Sept. 11 attacks, the NYPD has assigned foreign-born officers fluent in languages like Arabic and Farsi to surf websites where hatred of the West rages as a way to detect threats. In 2007, it also released an analysis warning that the rants could put young men from the Middle East who had grown disillusioned with life in America on the path to jihad.

Authorities say the rise of the Islamic State group and the proliferation of al-Qaida offshoots has multiplied the anti-American messages found on the Internet, reaching an even broader audience and upping the potential to invite mayhem.

"ISIS and al-Qaida now are competing to see who can do the most," said Jerome Hauer, commissioner of the New York State Division of Homeland Security, using one of the acronyms for the group. "I think ISIS will become a greater threat as time goes on."

... But I don't see it as an organized attack. I see it as a 'lone wolf' attack."

One posting that surfaced last week — titled "To the Lone Wolves in America: How to Make a Bomb in Your Kitchen, to Create Scenes of Horror in Tourist Spots and Other Targets" — was purportedly sanctioned by the Islamic State group. Local authorities are less concerned about whether the posts are authentic and more so about whether they help radicalize homegrown terrorists, said John Miller, the NYPD's top counterterrorism official.

"When you talk about threats over social media, the business end is not on where the information originates, it's on the user end," Miller said. "It's calling on these lone wolves to take this information and carry out individual attacks."

The first edition of "Inspire" — another online magazine linked to an al-Qaida affiliate and known for publishing recipes for homemade bombs and recommending domestic targets — was found downloaded on the computer of one of the two brothers accused in the Boston Marathon bombing, authorities have said.

A later edition after the attack proclaimed, "The act of the two great brothers ... is but the true image reflected by the bloody deeds of your hands, reflected by the oppressive policies of your downtrodden regimes."

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WAR ON TERRORISM

Islamic State militants kill 40 Iraqi troops

Suicide attacks strike just as Kurdish forces begin receiving western training

BY BRAM JANSSEN
AND QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
The Associated Press

IRBIL, Iraq — A wave of suicide bombings by Islamic State militants in western Iraq has killed 40 soldiers amid waning efforts by security forces to retake territory from the Sunni extremist group, a senior Iraqi commander said Monday.

The attacks, which occurred Sunday in the town of Sijir, 43 miles west of Baghdad, dealt a heavy blow to government efforts to rein in the militants whose rampage has seized much of the country's

'We asked all our allies, when they provided us with new weapons, that these weapons need training. So now all the allies that provided us with those weapons are providing us with training.'

Helgurd Hikmet
general director of the ministry overseeing Kurdish military forces known as peshmarga

by city of Fallujah, said Gen. Rasheed Fleih. There has been no communication with any of the soldiers since their capture Sunday, Fleih said.

The militants launched the massive wave of attacks, involving several suicide bombings on the Iraqi troops stationed in Sijir on Sunday, sparking clashes, said a security official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media. Following the attacks, the Iraqi military withdrew 700 more troops stationed in the area, he added.

Following their battlefield successes in both Iraq and neighboring Syria, fighters with the Islamic State group — among them many Iraqi nationals — reentered Iraq through the country's western Anbar province, engaging in fierce battles with the Iraqi military. In this Sunni-majority territory, the group quickly capitalized on long-standing grievances against the Shiite-led government in Baghdad, earning support from local populations.

Iraqi and Kurdish security forces, backed by U.S. airstrikes, were able to retake the strategic Mosul Dam and several small towns since airstrikes began. However, serious challenges remain, since many of the Islamic State fighters have taken refuge in busy cities with high civilian populations, such as Fallujah and Mosul.

In northern Iraq, Kurdish fighters battling the Sunni militant group have begun receiving training from Western allies, including the United States, as they seek to beef up their capabilities, a top Kurdish security official said Monday.

Helgurd Hikmet, general director of the ministry overseeing Kurdish military forces known as peshmarga, said that France, Italy and Germany are also among countries providing training to help Kurdish forces use new machine guns, mortars, rockets and demining robots they have received.

"We asked all our allies, when they provided us with new weapons, that these weapons need training," Hikmet told The Associated Press. "So now all the allies that provided us with those weapons are providing us with training."

The U.S. launched airstrikes and humanitarian missions in August to aid Iraqi and Kurdish security forces in northern Iraq.

Last week, the French joined in the aerial campaign. A number of European countries have also committed to arming the Kurds and providing humanitarian support for more than 1 million people displaced by the onslaught of the Islamic State group.

U.S. forces working with the peshmarga are part of the advise-and-assist teams that have been in Irbil, the provincial capital of the semi-autonomous Iraqi Kurdish region, for several weeks. The U.S. has also provided equipment against roadside bombs and other sophisticated artillery to the Kurdish fighters.



BURHAN OZILBILIC/AP

People help a man who was hit with a stone thrown by demonstrators during clashes between Kurdish demonstrators and riot police in Suruc, Turkey, on Monday.

Some 130,000 Syrians reach Turkey after fleeing Islamic State militants

The Associated Press

SURUC, Turkey — Some 130,000 Kurdish refugees fleeing Islamic militants have crossed the border from Syria into Turkey in the past four days, Turkey's deputy prime minister said Monday as fighting raged close to Turkey's southern border.

The minister, Numan Kurtulmus, warned that Turkey was facing "a refugee wave that can be expressed by hundreds of thousands."

"This is not a natural disaster... what we are faced with is a man-made disaster," Kurtulmus said of the surge of mostly women, children and the elderly that started late Thursday.

The situation has raised tensions between Turkish authorities and Kurds, who claim the govern-

ment is hampering their efforts to help their brethren in Syria by refusing to let Turkish Kurds cross into Syria. New clashes Monday erupted along the border near the town of Suruc, with Turkish police firing tear gas and water cannons to disperse Kurds protesting the government or demanding to reach Syria.

The conflict in Syria had already pushed more than 1 million people over the border since it began in March 2011. Refugees on Sunday reported atrocities by Islamic fighters that included stonings, beheadings and the torching of homes.

"We don't know how many more villages may be raided, how many more people may be forced to seek refuge," Kurtulmus said. "An uncontrollable force at the

other side of the border is attacking civilians."

Suruc itself was flooded with refugees and armored military vehicles.

Turkey had previously been reluctant to take part in international efforts against the group, citing the safety of 49 citizens taken hostage in June when the Islamic group overran the Iraqi city of Mosul. On Saturday, Turkey secured the hostages' release but would not say how. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has denied paying a ransom but has been vague on whether there was a prisoner swap.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Monday the United States now expects Turkey to step up in the fight against the militants.

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NATION

Turnover harms DHS' ability to handle threats

By JERRY MARKON,
ELLEN NAKASHIMA
AND ALICE CRITES
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — An exodus of top-level officials from the Department of Homeland Security is undercutting its ability to stay ahead of a range of emerging threats, including potential terrorist and cyberattacks, according to interviews with current and former officials.

During the past four years, employees have left DHS at a rate nearly twice as fast as the federal government overall, and the trend is accelerating, according to a review of a federal database.

The departures are a result of what employees widely describe as a dysfunctional work environment, abysmal morale and the lure of private security companies paying top dollar that have proliferated in Washington since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The department's terrorism intelligence arm, for example, has cycled through six directors during the Obama administration, decimating morale and contributing to months-long delays in releasing intelligence reports, according to interviews and government reports.

A parade of high-level departures, on top of other factors, has meantime helped slow the rollout of key cyberinitiatives, including a program aimed at blocking malicious software before it can infiltrate civilian government computers, former officials say.

With the country facing a crisis of unaccompanied minors crossing the southwest border in recent months, the pair of DHS agencies responsible for tackling this problem have been hindered by turnover of top officials. U.S. Customs and Border Protection, for instance, has had six commissioners under President Barack Obama, four of them in a care-

taker role because they were not confirmed by the Senate.

At the Transportation Security Administration, a DHS agency created after the Sept. 11 attacks to enhance airport security, the hemorrhaging of both senior and junior personnel has "had a tremendous effect," said Kenneth Kasprisin, a former acting TSA head who left the agency in May.

"You cannot sustain a high level of security operations when you have that kind of turnover," he said, attributing the defections to "a toxic culture" and "terrible" morale.

As evidence of the toll this is taking, Kasprisin cited the results of agency tests in which undercover operatives try to sneak weapons or explosives through airport security. He said security employees are increasingly missing the contraband, with the frequency of failures reaching a "frightening" level.

Homeland security officials acknowledge the challenges, which come at a time when the United States is facing potential threats from al-Qaida and other extremist groups.

Before his December confirmation, DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson called vacancies and morale his top priorities and said the department faced "a leadership vacuum ... of alarming proportions."

Since then, Johnson has won praise from lawmakers for taking steps to improve morale and to retain employees, such as restarting an internal awards program and increasing training. The Senate has confirmed 10 top DHS officials in recent months, reducing a top-level vacancy rate that had reached 40 percent.

"Morale has been low in the department for quite a number of years, and it is our responsibility to address it, and we are in fact addressing it," said Alejandro Mayorkas, the department's deputy secretary.



JOHN J. JANKOWSKI, THE WILMINGTON (DE.) NEWS-JOURNAL/AP

Passengers from a tour bus are treated for injuries near an overturned bus in Bear, Del.

2 dead, several injured in Delaware bus crash

By RANDALL CHASE
The Associated Press

NEW CASTLE, Del. — A bus carrying dozens of passengers finishing up a sightseeing tour crashed and overturned in Delaware, leaving two women dead and several other passengers injured, authorities said.

The wreck did not involve other vehicles and happened about 4:20 p.m. Sunday near New Castle in the northern part of the state, south of Wilmington, officials said.

Forty-nine passengers were on the bus when it was traveling on an exit ramp, and it was going through a curve when it left the road and overturned, according to a Delaware State Police news release. The bus slid on its roof down a grass embankment and came to rest on its left side, spokesman Sgt. Paul Shavack said in the release.

Huay Chen, 54, a woman from New York City, was found under the bus and was pronounced dead at the scene, Shavack said. Idil Bahsi, 30, a woman from Istanbul, Turkey, was taken to a hospital and died Sunday night.

Other passengers were taken to hospitals for injuries varying in severity.

Investigators were interviewing the bus driver, Jinli Zhao, 56, who was not critically injured, authorities said.

The passengers were taking a three-day sightseeing tour to Washington that began Friday in New York, authorities said. The crash happened as the bus was heading back to New York.

State police told The News Journal newspaper of Wilmington there were no apparent witnesses to the crash outside the bus.

But Elvis D'cruz, 19, told The Associated Press he was driving in the area with a friend when he came upon the overturned bus. He said he and his friend pulled over and were there before first responders arrived.

"Everyone was in pain and crying out for help," said D'cruz, a student at Penn State Brandywine in Pennsylvania.

He said the group of passengers included mostly adults, many of them speaking different languages including Hindi, Mandarin, Spanish and Portuguese.

Detroit tells judge city can't give away water

DETROIT — The city of Detroit is telling a judge it must have the power to cut off water to people who haven't paid their bills nor worked out payment plans.

Attorney Sonal Mithani said critics want free water. She said that would violate Michigan law and would hurt the finances of the water department.

Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes is holding a hearing Monday on a request to stop shutoffs for six months and to restore service to people who have lost water.

Police find rifle carried by Pa. ambush suspect

CANADENSIS, Pa. — Authorities have had no confirmed sightings of the suspected gunman who is accused of a deadly ambush at a police barracks 10 days ago, but they say they have found an assault rifle he was carrying and believe they are hot on his trail in the dense northeastern Pennsylvania woods.

Investigators said Sunday that the suspect they describe as a self-taught survivalist had been planning a confrontation with law enforcement for months, if not years, and they believe he is still armed and dangerous, and possibly concealing himself in self-built bunkers.

Pennsylvania State Police Lt. Col. George Bivens revealed a few more details about the manhunt for Eric Frein, saying trackers have discovered items he hid or abandoned in the woods — including an AK-47-style assault rifle and ammunition they believe he had been carrying while on the run.

Man seen with missing Uva student sought

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — A man authorities believe is the last person seen with a University of Virginia student before she disappeared is being sought on arrest warrants charging him with reckless driving.

Virginia State Police issued warrants for Jesse Matthew on a charge of misdemeanor reckless driving, Charlottesville Police Chief Timothy Longo said at a news conference Sunday. Matthew has not been charged in the disappearance of Hannah Graham, 18, who was last seen early on Sept. 13 in Charlottesville.

From The Associated Press

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NATION

Obama achieves mixed record on immigration

By JIM KUHNHENN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama has a complicated history with the politics of immigration.

The son of a Kenyan immigrant, Obama has been both embraced and scorned by immigrant advocates who have viewed him as both a champion of and an obstacle to their cause.

In 2006, about 30 Mexican nationals desperate to avoid deportations that would separate them from their families appealed to him for help when he was their U.S. senator. He turned them down.

Now, as president, a similar decision is upon him again, this time with the status of millions of immigrants at stake.

Advocacy groups are hoping that Obama will leave a mark for posterity by moving to allow work permits for millions of immigrants living illegally in this country.

"Some of the hard feelings could be for-

gotten at the end of the day if he acts boldly," said Janet Murguia, the president of the National Council of La Raza, a Latino advocacy group.

Obama's record on immigration, however, is one of caution and deliberation punctuated by moments of determination amid some broken promises. With the president delaying executive action on the work permits until after the November congressional election, some Democrats worry that expectations have been raised beyond what he can deliver.

"If they weren't sky high before, they are now," said Jim Manley, a former top aide to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid. "I'm not convinced they will meet the expectations of the Hispanic community."

White House officials say the delay will not affect the scope of what Obama intends to do.

"The goal is going to be to do as meaningful a package of reforms as is available to the president through his executive au-

thority," White House communications director Jennifer Palmieri said.

Over time, Obama has built a varied immigration record:

■ In 2006, Obama also angered Latino leaders when he voted to erect a 700-mile double fence along the U.S.-Mexico border.

■ He backed compromise legislation in 2007 to overhaul immigration laws. Whether his support for a labor-backed change to the legislation contributed to the bill's demise remains a point of debate.

■ During the 2008 Democratic presidential campaign, Obama took the side of pro-immigrant forces in supporting driver's licenses for immigrants living illegally in the United States. That stand distinguished him from Hillary Rodham Clinton, who opposed them.

■ Obama galvanized Latino voters with promises to take up an immigration overhaul during his presidency's first year. But once in office, he backed off to deal with

the recession and launch of a health care overhaul.

■ Under his watch, deportation numbers began to rise. Obama argued he could not act unilaterally to reduce deportations.

■ In 2012, as he campaigned for re-election, his administration announced a plan to defer deportation for certain immigrants who entered the country illegally as children. Since then, the program has deferred deportation and provided work permits for nearly 600,000 immigrants.

■ He backed bipartisan immigration legislation passed in the Senate in 2013 and held out hope the Republican-controlled House would follow. This past June, Obama was finally convinced the House would not vote, and he promised to act on his own shortly after summer's end.

■ This month, Obama decided to wait until after the election, saying he worried his actions would be undermined by campaign politics.



CRAIG RUTLE/AP

From left, French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius, primatologist Jane Goodall, former Vice President Al Gore, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon participate in the People's Climate March on Sunday in New York.

Marches around globe draw attention to climate change

By VERENA DOBNIK
AND MICHAEL SISAK
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Tens of thousands of activists walked through Manhattan, warning that climate change is destroying the Earth — in stride with demonstrators around the world who urged policy-makers to take quick action.

Most came on foot for the Sunday march, others with bicycles and walkers, and some even in wheelchairs. Many wore costumes and marched to drums. One woman played the accordion.

But their message was not entertainment:

"We're going to lose our planet in the next generation if things continue this way," said Bert Garskof, 81, as a family member

pushed his wheelchair through Times Square.

He had first heard about global warming in 1967, "when no one was paying much attention," said Garskof, a native New Yorker and professor of psychology at Connecticut's Quinnipiac University.

Organizers said more than 100,000 marched in New York, including actors Mark Ruffalo and Evangeline Lilly. They were joined in midtown Manhattan by U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, former Vice President Al Gore and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio.

On Tuesday, more than 120 world leaders will convene for the United Nations Climate Summit aimed at galvanizing political will for a new global climate treaty by the end of 2015.

"I am overwhelmed by such a strong power, energy and voice of people," Ban told reporters. "I hope this voice will be truly reflected to the leaders when they meet on September 23rd."

"Climate change is (a) defining issue of our time and there is no time to lose," he said. "If we do not take action now, we will have to pay much more."

The New York march was one of a series of events held around the world to raise awareness about climate change.

In London, organizers said 40,000 marchers participated, while a small gathering in Cairo featured a huge art piece representing wind and solar energy. In Rio de Janeiro, marchers with green hearts painted on their faces rallied at Ipanema Beach.

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NATION



NASA/AP

In this artist's concept, the Maven spacecraft approaches Mars on a mission to study its upper atmosphere. It's designed to circle the planet, not land.

NASA spacecraft enters Mars orbit

The Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — NASA's Maven spacecraft entered orbit around Mars for an unprecedented study of the red planet's atmosphere following a 442 million-mile journey that began nearly a year ago.

The robotic explorer successfully slipped into orbit around the red planet late Sunday night.

"I think my heart's about ready to start again," Maven's chief investigator, Bruce Jakosky of the University of Colorado, said early Monday. "All I can say at this point is, 'We're in orbit at Mars, guys!'"

Now the real work begins for the \$671 million mission, the first dedicated to studying the Martian upper atmosphere and the latest step in NASA's bid to send astronauts to Mars in the 2030s.

Flight controllers in Colorado will spend the next six weeks adjusting Maven's altitude and checking its science instruments, and observing a comet streaking by at relatively close range. Then, in early November, Maven will start probing the upper atmosphere of Mars. The spacecraft will conduct its observations from

orbit; it's not meant to land.

Scientists believe the Martian atmosphere holds clues as to how Earth's neighbor went from being warm and wet billions of years ago to cold and dry. That early wet world may have harbored microbial life, a tantalizing question yet to be answered.

NASA launched Maven last November from Cape Canaveral, the 10th U.S. mission sent to orbit the red planet. Three earlier ones failed, and until the official word came of success late Sunday night, the entire team was on edge.

The spacecraft was clocking more than 10,000 mph when it hit the brakes for the so-called orbital insertion, a half-hour process. The world had to wait 12 minutes to learn the outcome, once it occurred, because of the lag in spacecraft signals given the 138 million miles between the two planets Sunday.

Maven joins three spacecraft already circling Mars, two American and one European. And the traffic jam isn't over: India's first interplanetary probe, Mangalyaan, will reach Mars in two days and also aim for orbit.

steadily at 128 square miles.

"The heavy drizzle helped the firefighters immensely. We got what we were looking for to gain containment of the fire," he said.

Earlier in the day, poor air quality forced a last-minute cancellation of two popular Ironman events in nearby Lake Tahoe, disappointing about 3,000 athletes who had signed up for the competition, Ironman operations manager Keats McGonigal said. "I had tears too, and then my husband came, and comforted me," Sabine Bokslopper told KTVU as she unpacked her gear bags in Oakland on Sunday evening.

From The Associated Press

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WORLD

Hong Kong students strike over democracy

HONG KONG — Thousands of Hong Kong college and university students boycotted classes Monday to protest Beijing's decision to restrict voting reforms, the start of a weeklong strike that marks the latest phase in the battle for democracy in the southern Chinese city.

The strike comes as dozens of the city's tycoons and business leaders paid a rare group visit to Beijing to meet with China's communist leaders, who want to bolster support from Hong Kong's pro-establishment billionaire elites for the central government's policies on the semiautonomous city.

Student organizers are dismayed over Beijing's decision in August to rule out open nominations for candidates under proposed guidelines for the first-ever elections for Hong Kong's top leader, promised for 2017.

UN: Libya's rival groups agree to hold talks

CAIRO — Libya's rival groups have agreed to hold talks further this month, the first such negotiations since the latest surge in violence that left the country torn between two parliaments and governments, the United Nations mission in Libya said.

The announcement comes amid a deeply polarized Libya, which has grown increasingly lawless and which has been witnessing the worst bout of violence since the 2011 overthrow of longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi. Weeks of fighting among rival militias has forced nearly a quarter-million people to flee their homes.

Nurse bitten by Ebola patient flown out

GENEVA — Swiss authorities said a male nurse who was bitten by an Ebola patient while working in West Africa has been flown to Switzerland as a precaution.

The health ministry said the unidentified man was working for an international organization in Sierra Leone when he was bitten by a child infected with Ebola on Saturday.

The ministry said the nurse was wearing protective gear and is unlikely to have contracted the disease.

Iran arrests 11 over insulting text messages

TEHRAN, Iran — An Iranian newspaper says 11 people have been arrested in the south after allegedly sending text messages deemed insulting to the founder of the Islamic Republic, the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Hafiz-e-Sohbi, an Monday quoted Col. Ismael Mohebbipour, of the Revolutionary Guard, as saying the arrests were made after social networking applications on mobile phones — such as WhatsApp, Viber, Line and Tango — were monitored.

Iran's judiciary has demanded that moderate President Hassan Rouhani's government ban such applications.

From The Associated Press

Pakistan eyes wider nuke capacity

By TIM CRAIG
The Washington Post

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — In one of the world's most volatile regions, Pakistan is advancing toward a sea-based missile capability and expanding its interest in tactical nuclear warheads, according to Pakistani and Western analysts.

The development of nuclear missiles that could be fired from a Navy ship or submarine would give Pakistan "second-strike" capability if a catastrophic nuclear exchange destroyed all land-based weapons. But the acceleration of Pakistan's nuclear and missile programs is renewing international concern about the vulnerability of those weapons in a country home to more than 20 dozen Islamist extremist groups.

"The assurances Pakistan has given the world about the safety of its nuclear program will be severely tested with short-range and sea-based systems, but they are not going to," said Michael Koon, co-founder of the Stimson Center, a Washington-based global security think tank. "A

cardinal principle of Pakistan's nuclear program has been: 'Don't worry; we separate warheads from launchers.' Well, that is very hard to do at sea."

Western officials have been concerned about Pakistan's nuclear program since it first tested an atomic device in 1998. Those fears have deepened during the past decade amid political tumult, terrorist attacks and tensions with the country's nuclear-armed neighbor, India, with which it has fought three wars.

That instability was underscored this month as anti-government protests in the capital appeared to push Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's government to the brink of collapse. The political crisis was unfolding as Pakistan and India continued lobbing artillery shells across their border in a tit-for-tat escalation that illustrated the continued risk of another war.

For more than a decade, Pakistan has sent signals that it's attempting to bolster its nuclear arsenal with "tactical" weapons — short-range missiles that carry smaller warheads and are easier to transport.

During the past two years, Pakistan has conducted at least eight tests of various land-based ballistic or cruise missiles that it says are capable of delivering nuclear warheads. Last September, Sharif, citing "evolving security dynamics in South Asia," said Pakistan is developing "a full spectrum deterrence capability to deter all forms of aggression."

The next step of Pakistan's strategy includes an effort to develop nuclear warheads suitable for deployment from the Indian Ocean, either from warships or from one of the country's five diesel-powered Navy submarines, analysts say. In a sign of that ambition, Pakistan in 2012 created the Naval Strategic Force command, which is similar to the air force and army commands that oversee nuclear weapons.

"We are on our way, and my own hunch is within a year or so, we should be developing our second-strike capability," said Shireen M. Mazari, a nuclear expert and the former director of the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, a hawkish Pakistani government-funded think-tank.

Pakistan's nuclear push comes amid heightened tension with U.S. intelligence and congressional officials over the security of the country's nuclear weapons and materials. The Washington Post reported in September 2013 that U.S. intelligence officials had increased surveillance of Pakistan in part because of concerns that nuclear materials could fall into the hands of terrorists.

During a visit to Washington for consultations with the Obama administration in July, Tariq Fa-temi, Sharif's senior foreign policy adviser, said the government had "no intention of pursuing" sea-based nuclear weapons.

It is unclear how much direct knowledge Sharif's government has about the country's nuclear weapons and missile-development programs, which are controlled by the powerful military's Strategic Planning Directorate. But the prime minister is the chairman of the country's National Command Authority, a group of civilian and military officials who would decide whether to launch nuclear weapons.

Yemeni Shiite rebels rout Islamist-allied general

By AHMED AL-HAJ
The Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — Heavily armed Yemeni Shiite militiamen took over the headquarters and house of a powerful army general allied to Sunni Islamists on Monday and set up checkpoints across the capital, Sanaa, after sweeping across the city as the general and his allies fled and went into hiding.

The move against Maj. Gen. Ali Mohsen al-Ahmar consolidated the Hawthi rebels' grip over Sanaa after a week of deadly battles. The group had seized a series of strategic installations and key state buildings in Sanaa in recent days but later handed most of them over to military police.

It was the latest development in the Hawthi rebels' blitz, which has plunged volatile Yemen into more turmoil. After a week of fierce clashes that killed at least 140, the U.N. envoy to Yemen, Jamal Benomar, succeeded in mediating a deal that halted violence.

Fighting between the Shiite Hawthi and pro-Islamist militiamen died down and Sanaa was quiet on Monday. However, thousands of Hawthi fighters were out on the streets, the only visible force except Yemeni military police guarding state institutions.

Thousands of residents already had fled the city, while those who stayed hunkered down in their homes, fearful of new clashes, looting and robberies. Long lines of cars loaded with suitcases and food were seen leaving the capital for the countryside.

The Hawthis signed the U.N.-brokered deal on Sunday, an agreement that gave them unprecedented influence in the



HANI MOHAMMED/AP

Hawthi Shiite rebels chant slogans at the compound of the army's 1st Armored Division after taking it over Monday in Sanaa, Yemen.

presidency and over the Cabinet. It calls for an immediate ceasefire and the formation of a technocratic government within a month after consultations with all political parties.

According to the deal, President Abed Rabbu Mansour Hadi is to appoint key advisers — from both the ranks of the Hawthis and the pro-separatist factions in the south.

The U.N.-brokered agreement sets Yemen on a new political path, one in which long-time power centers such as the Islah party, the political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood group, and its key ally — the Al-Ahmar tribe — as well as loyal generals are forced out of the power-sharing scheme.

The Hawthis claim they are

not seeking power but revolting against a corrupt government. Critics believe the group is carrying out a power grab and that it is heavily supported by Iran.

But even as the U.N. deal was signed on Sunday, the Hawthis captured the headquarters of the army's 1st Armored Division, an elite outfit led by al-Ahmar, who has carried out several military campaigns against the Hawthis in the north.

On Monday, Hawthi fighters seized a large amount of weapons from the army headquarters and were seen transporting them out of Sanaa, possibly to their northern strongholds. Dozens of tanks and armored vehicles were seen being taken out of the city.

Yemen, one of the Arab world's

poorest nations, is facing multiple challenges. In addition to the Hawthi rebels, an al-Qaida branch in the south poses a constant threat as it tries to impose control over cities and towns. Washington considers the Yemeni branch to be the world's most dangerous arm of al-Qaida and has helped support Yemeni government offensives against it with drone strikes.

As for the Hawthis, they waged a six-year insurgency that officially ended in 2010. The following year, an Arab Spring-inspired uprising forced then-President Ali Abdullah Saleh to step down in 2012 as part of a U.S.-backed deal giving him immunity from prosecution.

CRISIS IN UKRAINE

World crises drawing focus from Ukraine

By STEVEN R. HURST

The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — As world leaders gather at the U.N. this week, the U.S. and its European allies are consumed by efforts to blunt the savage advance of the Islamic State group, to end the raging Ebola epidemic and to **ANALYSIS** make progress in nuclear negotiations with Iran. That's likely just fine with Russian President Vladimir Putin, since those issues distract from Russia's presence in neighboring Ukraine.

While attention focuses elsewhere, the Russians are consolidating their annexation of the Crimean Peninsula. They are also deeply involved in turmoil in Ukraine's east and south, hoping to prevent the country from mov-

ing out of the Kremlin's orbit. Europe and the United States insist the independent nation must be free to choose its own course.

Russia is already enraged over NATO's having brought former Soviet satellite nations in Eastern Europe and some Baltic nations, once Soviet republics, into the alliance over the past two decades. The Kremlin insists it was promised, after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, that that would not happen. It's doing its best to prevent Ukraine from making the same move.

What's more, said American University professor Keith Darden: "Their strategy all along has been to argue that what they did in Crimea is not abnormal. Intervention in Ukraine is not unusual for great powers. The U.S. has intervened in Latin America

consistently. Ukraine, they say, is their sphere of interest."

Given the chaos in other areas of the world, said Andrew Weiss of the Carnegie Endowment, "I can't say I see the Russian challenges and issues as being front and center. Ukraine, to a degree, already has been pushed out of the public eye by the Middle East crisis and the Ebola epidemic. I don't think Ukraine will have the same centrality."

The Russians will likely raise objections to U.S. threats to bomb Syria to take out Islamic State group fighters and facilities. But, since the focus in Syria has shifted from the counter-revolutionary brutality of President Bashar Assad, Russia's obstinate backing for him likely will not come to the fore.

While the United States has de-

livered aid to Ukraine, the White House has so far refused to send lethal military equipment that would beef up Kiev's forces in the battle against eastern rebels who are fighting to break away and join Russia.

Moscow, no doubt, is happy about Washington's military restraint in Ukraine, but is feeling the effects of heavy sanctions levied against Russia by the United States and the European Union. And it's no doubt heard the rumblings in Washington of serious divisions in the White House over increased lethal aid to Kiev.

So far, Putin has voiced determination not to be diverted from his course in Ukraine regardless of Western actions. He has also been able to use the punitive measures in a propaganda drive to build support at home — creating

anger against the U.S. and Europe as a distraction from the pain his citizens absorb from the economic sanctions.

Beyond that, key Putin advisers are promoting his desires to protect and perhaps reabsorb regions with predominantly Russian speakers. They are not only in Ukraine's east but in former republics like Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia — the Baltic nations on Russia's northwest border. President Barack Obama recently visited the region and promised that NATO would indeed fight to protect those new alliance members if attacked by Russia.

"It is a miscalculation because Russia is far stronger, and the West far weaker, than many imagine," wrote Putin foreign policy adviser Sergey Karaganov.



DARKO VOJNOVIC/AP

Smoke rises over a residential area in the north of the rebel-held city of Donetsk, eastern Ukraine, on Monday. A cease-fire called on Sept. 5 has been violated repeatedly, but progress is being reported.

Pullback marks cease-fire progress

By LAURA MILLS

The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Both government troops and pro-Russia rebels began withdrawing heavy artillery in the east of the country, Ukrainian officials said Monday, a significant step toward implementing an effective cease-fire in the region.

Col. Andriy Lysenko, spokesman for Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, said Kiev's forces had started withdrawing from frontline positions. He said the rebels had also begun their withdrawal of heavy artillery, although it was "not as massive as we expected."

"We are seeing a trend that (the rebels) are reducing their use of heavy armed weaponry," Lysenko told journalists in Kiev. He said neither Kiev nor the rebels had completed their withdrawals, but said he hoped the rebels "will

follow the example of the Ukrainian servicemen."

A cease-fire imposed Sept. 5 has been riddled by violations from the start, adding civilian casualties to the estimated 3,000 people who have been killed since the conflict began in April.

On Monday, explosions were heard in the north of the rebel-held city of Donetsk, where fighting in recent weeks centered on a government-held airport has caught many residential areas in the crossfire. Later, smoke rose over a neighborhood in that area and rebels blocked an Associated Press photographer from traveling there.

Lysenko said two Ukrainian servicemen had been killed in the past day.

Last week, an agreement was signed to further the peace process, calling for both sides to halt advances and pull back heavy artillery, creating a buffer zone

between them.

The deal was reached in the Belarusian capital, Minsk, on Saturday by representatives of Ukraine, Russia, the Moscow-backed rebels and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The deal on Saturday could be a significant step forward in finally bringing an end to the simmering conflict, although the negotiators have not yet addressed the future status of the rebel regions, the most politically controversial issue.

In an interview with Ukrainian news channels released late on Sunday, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko pleaded with the public to give the controversial peace deal time to work.

"Solving the war in Luhansk and Donetsk with military alone is impossible," he said. "The more military groups we have there, the more the Russian army will send."

Muscovites protest over Ukrainian war

By KAROUN DEMIRJIAN

The Washington Post

MOSCOW — A march for peace in Ukraine drew tens of thousands to downtown Moscow on Sunday in a show of protest against Russia's involvement in the conflict.

The demonstration drew a mixed crowd of old and young, families and organized factions, who walked the route chanting songs and slogans — the most common being a simple "No to war."

"This march is to show the people that there's quite a number of people who are against the war and don't think that most Ukrainians are fascists," said Mikhail Garder, 28. "The government knows that. The people don't."

Participants walked on either side of a divided boulevard under heavy police supervision, many carrying or dressed in the colors of the Ukrainian flag, while others brought handmade signs calling for an end to the bloodshed, the return of Crimea and the rejection of Russian President Vladimir Putin, sometimes depicted with a Hitler-style mustache. The event attracted a variety of subgroups as well, such as feminist activist groups and representatives of various opposition parties.

But the march seemed to draw as many curious observers to walk the route as it did dedicated demonstrators.

People paused to take photographs and applaud those who stood along the route with signs bearing slogans and demands, such as "Stop the aggression" to Putin to "stop the armed and political aggression" in Ukraine.

"A war with Ukraine, that's the most ridiculous, the most idiotic thing that Putin could have come up with," Smagurov said. "We have put ourselves in such a position that we're against everybody — against Europe, against our-



DENIS TYRIN/AP

A woman wearing a traditional Ukrainian folk headband poses for a photo in front of police officers during an anti-war rally in downtown Moscow on Sunday.

selves, against the United States, against normal life."

The march is the second peace rally to be held this year but the first since open hostilities commenced in eastern Ukraine.

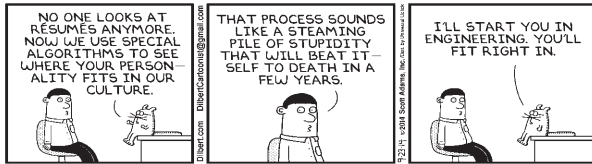
Western nations have accused Russia of fomenting the conflict in Ukraine by supporting the rebels and sending Russian tanks and troops over the border. Russian officials have denied the accusations, and the mostly state-run media have portrayed a different picture of what is happening in Ukraine — one in which rebels are fighting to maintain minority rights against the alleged abuses of a purportedly fascist government. Polls have indicated that Kremlin policy toward Ukraine is overwhelmingly popular.

Counterprotesters bearing pro-separatist flags and a banner reading "March of Traitors" echoed those sentiments Sunday, but most of them were kept at bay outside the security barriers.

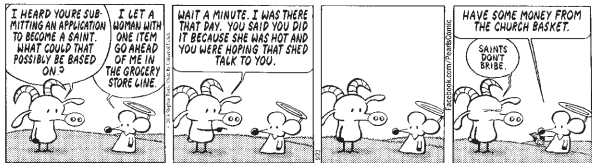
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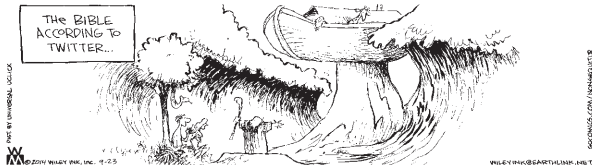
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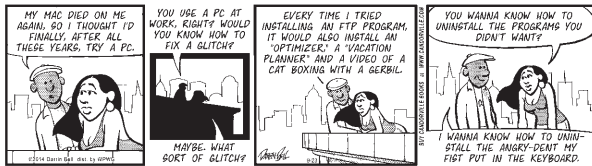
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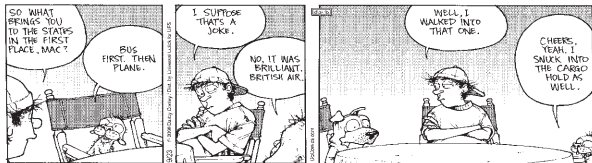
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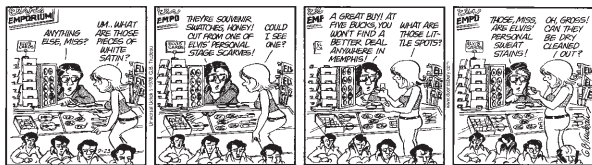
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Get Fuzzy



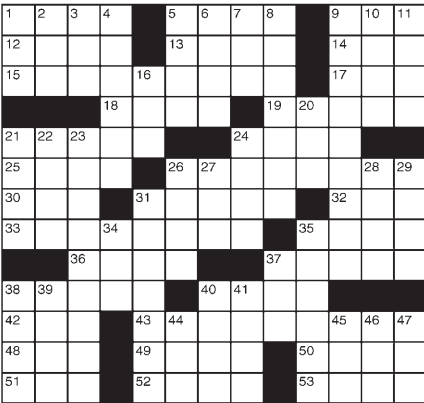
Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Grouch
- 5 Dalai —
- 9 Craze
- 12 Formerly
- 13 Stench
- 14 Glass of NPR
- 15 Nixon-era scandal
- 17 Edge
- 18 Verse
- 19 Indian, e.g.
- 21 Bed linen
- 24 Huff and puff
- 25 Frost
- 26 Geometric curve
- 30 Spring mo.
- 31 Hiawatha's carrier

DOWN

- 2 Reveille's opposite
- 3 Physical
- 4 Intimide
- 6 Genetic matter
- 7 Performance
- 8 Paging device
- 9 Theater box
- 10 Leading man?
- 11 Witticism
- 12 Colored rings
- 13 July 4 props
- 14 Met melody
- 15 "— the torpedoes!"
- 16 Go bad
- 17 Corn castoff
- 18 Persian leader
- 19 Arizona tribe

- 23 Night crawler
- 24 Family biz abbr.
- 26 History
- 27 Pismire
- 28 "Family Guy" mom
- 29 "SNL" alum
- 30 Samberg
- 31 Movie devotee
- 34 Fleur-de—
- 35 Limber
- 37 Winter ailment
- 38 Antelope's playmate
- 39 Shrek is one
- 40 Clutch
- 41 Mail org.
- 44 — minute
- 45 Snapshots
- 46 Michele of "Glee"
- 47 "Tasty!"

Answer to Previous Puzzle



9-23

CRYPTOQUIP

MS SFFV JD PFRIQ SF
WZSPDI JMHHMFXQ FK
KZHHDX HDZBDQ M'C
NZHH MS Z WIFRXC-IZVMXW
ZNPMBDBJDXS.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN THE STUDENT PILOT SUCCESSFULLY NAVIGATED ABOVE A RAINBOW, DID HE PASS WITH FLYING COLORS? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals L

WORLD

‘Did I deliver him to some terrible fate?’

Surrogate offers clues into man with 16 babies

By JOCELYN CECKER
AND THANYARAT DOKSONE
The Associated Press

BANGKOK — When the young Thai woman saw an online ad seeking surrogate mothers, it seemed like a life-altering deal: \$10,000 to help a foreign couple that wanted a child but couldn't conceive.

Wassana, a lifetime resident of the slums, viewed it as a nine-month solution to her family's debt. She didn't ask many questions.

In reality, there was no couple. There was instead a young man from Japan named Mitsutoki Shigeta, whom she met twice but who never spoke a word to her. This same man — reportedly the son of a Japanese billionaire — would go on to make surrogate babies with 10 other women in Thailand, police say, spending more than half a million dollars to father at least 16 children for reasons still unclear.

The mystery surrounding Shigeta has riveted Thailand and become the focal point of a growing scandal over commercial surrogacy. The industry that thrives on semi-secrecy, deception and legal loopholes, and Thailand's military government is vowing to shut it down.

Wassana's story, which she shared with The Associated Press on condition that her last name not be used to protect her family and 8-year-old son from embarrassment, offers clues into an extraordinarily complex puzzle that boils down to two questions: Who is Shigeta and why did he want so many babies?

Shigeta is being investigated for human trafficking and child exploitation, but Thai police say they haven't found evidence of either. The 24-year-old, now the focus of an Asia-wide investigation, has said through a lawyer that he simply wanted a big family.

He has not been charged with any crime and is trying to get his children back — 12 are currently in Thailand being cared for by social services. His whereabouts are unknown; he left Bangkok after police raided his condominium Aug. 5 and discovered the babies living with nine nannies. Police say he sent DNA samples from Japan that prove he is the babies' father.

Key to unraveling all of this are the women Shigeta paid to bear his children. Wassana's account has been corroborated by police, was his first.

An answer to eviction

Wassana's Bangkok is not the city of skyscrapers and spas that most visitors see. The petite, soft-spoken 32-year-old with a ninth-grade education has spent her life in a trash-strewn slum, scraping by selling traditional Thai sweets from a food cart and sharing a mildew-stained tenement with



SANCHAI LALIT/AP

Thai police display pictures of surrogate babies born to a Japanese man who is at the center of a surrogacy scandal during a press conference. A string of recent scandals has lifted a lid on Thailand's largely unregulated commercial surrogacy industry, which has been around for more than a decade.

seven relatives. At \$6 a day, it was affordable until her late father's medical bills drained the family's savings. They couldn't pay rent for a year and faced eviction.

So when her sister stumbled upon an ad seeking surrogates in 2012, Wassana didn't hesitate.

"I thought that any parents who would spend so much money to get a baby must want him desperately," she said. "The agent told me it was for a foreign couple."

She assumed it was customary to keep the biological parents' identities confidential. In a country where deference to authority is expected — especially for poor, uneducated women — she didn't probe.

She wondered, though, who the baby's mother was.

"I don't know if the doctor used my eggs or another woman's," she said. "Nobody told me."

During the pregnancy, she developed pre-eclampsia, a condition that causes dangerously high blood pressure. She was rushed into the delivery room two months early and on June 20, 2013, she underwent a cesarean section, giving birth to a boy. Wassana's family came to visit, but, she said, Shigeta did not.

The infant was placed in an incubator and, after six days, Wassana returned home. She's not sure when the baby was released from the hospital to Shigeta's custody.

Two months later, she finally met Shigeta for the first time at the New Life fertility clinic, which had posted the Internet ad.

He was tall, with shaggy, shoulder-length hair, and was dressed casually in jeans and a wrinkled, button-down shirt he left untucked. His lawyer had accompanied him to the meeting, where he and Wassana signed a document granting him sole custody.

He wasn't personable. There was no "thank you" for carrying his child, she said. There was, in fact, no communication at all.

"He didn't say anything to me," she says. "He never introduced himself. He only smiled and nodded. His lawyer did the talking."

Perjury allegations

A month later, the same lawyer, Ratpratan Tulatorn, called and told her to go to the Juvenile and Family Court to finalize the custody transfer. Under Thai law, a woman who gives birth is the legal mother, and, if she is married, her husband is the legal father. A court approval is required to transfer custody, which experts say often involves perjury.

Police Col. Decha Promsuwan, who has questioned five of Shigeta's surrogates, said several of the women told police Ratpratan had instructed them to tell the court they'd had an affair with Shigeta, resulting in a child their husbands did not want.

Ratpratan said he is no longer Shigeta's attorney and declined to comment on the women's statements, saying, "I don't want to touch that point because it's a legal matter."

During the hearing, Shigeta told the judge he owned a finance company in Japan.

His story is being intensely followed in Japan despite legal threats against the press. After his case made headlines, a group of prominent lawyers sent letters warning Japan's mainstream media not to report Shigeta's name or the names of his family members, according to news organizations that received the letter.

However, several Japanese magazines and online publications have identified him as a son

of Japanese tycoon Yasumitsu Shigeta, founder of mobile phone distributor Hikari Tsushin.

Yet even his heritage is shrouded in mystery. The company says it can neither confirm nor deny the father-son relationship, calling it "a personal matter," and Thai police and Interpol say they are investigating his family ties. Multiple stock filings, meanwhile, show the elder Shigeta has a son named Mitsutoki and his company has a shareholder with the same name. The stock papers show that Yasumitsu's child was born Feb. 9, 1990, the same birthdate as the Mitsutoki Shigeta at the center of the surrogacy scandal, according to Thai media that published his passport page.

Yasumitsu Shigeta did not respond to a request for an interview and Mitsutoki Shigeta's current lawyer did not respond to requests for interviews with his client, who has multiple addresses throughout Asia. Phone calls to a Hong Kong mobile number listed for the younger Shigeta went straight to voicemail, and he did not answer text messages. No one answered the bell at his Hong Kong condo, and the doorman said he could not recall ever seeing him there.

'10 to 15 babies a year'

In early August, barely a year after Wassana's court date with Shigeta, she saw his face again — this time, on television. She almost didn't recognize him; his hair was

now neatly trimmed.

Wassana was floored. What was happening?

Police wondered the same thing. So intricate was Shigeta's quest for children that they crafted a flowchart to keep track of how he did it.

The 9-step diagram starts with Shigeta's picture and traces the steps he took to get his babies, from hiring surrogacy clinics and nannies to registering apartments in the infants' names and completing legal paperwork required for birth certificates and passports. The deliveries were spread out at nine Bangkok hospitals.

Shigeta's acquaintances offer varying accounts of his motives.

The New Life clinic, which is currently closed pending investigation, stopped working with Shigeta after two surrogates got pregnant and he requested more, said founder Mariam Kukulnashvili.

Shigeta told New Life "he wanted to win elections and could use his big family for voting," Kukulnashvili said. "He said he wanted 10 to 15 babies a year, and that he wanted to continue the baby-making process until he's dead."

Kukulnashvili said she reported his requests to Interpol in an April 8, 2013, fax to its French headquarters, but never heard back. Thailand's Interpol office said it never saw the warning.

She rejected Wassana's account that the New Life agent had portrayed the parents as a wealthy and withheld Shigeta's identity.

"At New Life, surrogates are always informed fully and never treated this way," she said.

The Medical Council of Thailand, meanwhile, spoke with Wassana's doctor, Pisit Fattawatankul, before he closed his All IVF fertility clinic and emptied it of all patient files after the scandal broke.

Pisit told the council Shigeta said he had businesses overseas and wanted a large family because he trusted only his own children to take care of them.

Japan has no law banning surrogacy, but the medical industry has issued orders against it that are strictly followed, which could explain why Shigeta flew to one of the few places in Asia where it is openly practiced. Since 2010, he has made 41 trips to Thailand and police say he traveled regularly to Cambodia, where he holds a passport and brought four of the babies. Cambodian police have refused to comment on the case.

One of the babies in Cambodia might be Wassana's — a prospect that leaves her riddled with guilt.

"What if they've done something bad to the baby?" she said. "Did I deliver him to some terrible fate?"

"I thought he would be with a good family that would love him," she said. "That's what I thought."

‘He said he wanted 10 to 15 babies a year, and that he wanted to continue the baby-making process until he's dead.’

Mariam Kukulnashvili

New Life fertility clinic founder, on Mitsutoki Shigeta

SHIFTING GEARS

It might look like six figures, but the Alfa Romeo 4C starts at \$53,900.

AJ MUELLER, CHRYSLER/MCT



Alfa's return to the US is a head-turner

By SUSAN CARPENTER
The Orange County (Calif.) Register

The Alfa Romeo 4C won't be at dealers until later this month. That's a good thing for store managers, who will need the extra time to hire salesmen who are willing to wipe up customer drool.

It's an unfortunate truism that most cars cost more than their style warrants. Not the 4C. Curvy as Sofia Vergara, sporty as Anna Kournikova, shorter than Peter Dinklage and exotically Italian, it's automotive paparazzi bait, offering Ferrari looks on a Corvette budget.

In the week I had the head-swiveling 4C, I took advantage of the constant attention to informally survey its admirers.

How much do you think this car costs? I asked. The answer was almost always \$200,000. Imagine the dropped jaws when I shared the reality. The 2015 4C starts at a reasonable \$53,900, making Alfa Romeo's return to the U.S. mass market after a 20-year absence all the more intriguing.

Its fun-per-dollar is hard to beat. Sure, hardcore exotics fans are likely to scoff at its specs. On paper, the 4C's mid-rear-mounted engine doesn't look at all impressive. Making a mere 237 horses, it's powered with a small, 1.7-liter inline four-cylinder that would be more appropriate for a motorcycle than an entire car. But the little engine that could is turbocharged, intercooled and aurally glorious.

Press the accelerator, and it sounds as if it's fueled with pure wind. It comes to speed with little effort since the load it's carrying is so light. Its curb weight is

2015 Alfa Romeo 4C



Base price: \$55,195 for the base 4C, \$69,695 for the 4C Launch Edition.*

Price as tested: \$60,595.

Powertrain: Fuel-injected, liquid-cooled, intercooled, turbocharged, 16 valves per cylinder, DOHC, continuous variable valve timing, 6-speed twin clutch transmission. **Horsepower:** 237 at 6,000 rpm. **Torque:** 258 lb.-ft. at 2,200-4,250 rpm.

Wheelbase: 93.7 inches.

Overall length: 157.5 inches.

Ground clearance: 4.5 inches.

Dry weight: 2,315 pounds.

Estimated EPA fuel economy: 24 mpg city, 34 mpg highway, 28 mpg combined.

*Includes \$1,295 destination charge.

MCT

as svelte as the models that hail from Alfa's Milanese headquarters. It weighs in at 2,315 pounds dry.

Importing the same Formula 1 technology as the McLaren P1 and Ferrari 458, its cockpit is a carbon fiber tub that's left unapologetic to impress its inhabitants.

And how. It's a sporty little thing, with a back-to-basics interior that is pleasant in its simplicity.

Accessing it, however, is an

issue. The chassis sits just 4.5 inches from the asphalt, so potential buyers might want to make an appointment with their orthopedists to check out the viability of their knees.

A compact two-seater, the 4C is not a vehicle that encourages the wearing of skirts. At least the carbon fiber cockpit is somewhat obliging. It's so thick that it serves as a sort of ledge, upon which one can perch a posterior, slide back into the bolstered seat and swing the legs into position.

The seat can then be adjusted, but only fore and aft — and manually. For those of long legs and short torso, such as myself, vertical adjustment isn't easy. It can be done but it takes tools. Having left the seat in its original position, the seat belt cut at an unfortunate jib, i.e. into my neck.

Alas, the joys of driving the 4C superseded that particular discomfort.

The 4C offers a more authentic sports car experience than so many others that make a sport claim but are so tuned for comfort as to be numb. The 4C's mechanical and precise steering and race-derived suspension tuning felt truly authentic, offering enough feedback to keep me entertained, not just engaged. Taking the 4C for a spin on the highway, it stuck the turns. Its lateral suspension was superb, though in city driving over potholes, it was a bit taut vertically.

Its six-speed transmission isn't accessed with a stick but a button on the center console that lets drivers choose between automatic and semi-manual shifting with paddles. Oddly, automatic was more satisfying.

There is also a drive mode selector that adjusts the engine, transmission, stability control and electronic rear differential settings for so-called normal driving, driving in inclement weather and driving like a maniac with a race setting and launch control, all of which begs the question: Where, exactly, did Alfa Romeo skimp?

Not anywhere that it counts in a driver's car such as this, other than creature comforts. The cabin is a bit noisy, but that seems appropriately sporty for a car whose interior is unfussy, uncluttered and driver-oriented. The seats in my test car were cloth but comfortable. The dash was a hard black plastic, but its texture was fine rather than bumpy. For those who want it, the 4C offers a cockpit wrapped in premium leather.

The sun visors were so small as to be worthless. There isn't a glovebox. Only one cup holder was deep enough for anything other than a demitasse.

That brings me to the infotainment system. I would have loved

to cue up some Dean Martin for a "That's Amore" soundtrack, but its controls were completely unintuitive.

Visibility was also an issue — and not only through the front window for short-bodied folks. The rear mirror offers a view akin to a porthole through the small and steeply sloped back window seemingly designed for others to gaze upon the engine. There was absolutely no visibility on the sides behind the passenger windows.

If the 4C were any less attractive from the outside, I would have feared other drivers' ability to see me, especially pickup trucks and SUVs, whose bumpers were at my sight line.

But the Alfa Romeo is too comely to avoid attention. It is also a lot less precious and a lot more distinctive than other Italian exotics. At least it is for now. A triumphant return for Alfa Romeo, the 4C's got legs.

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AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Family of 7 rescued from state park

NH NOTTINGHAM — A family of seven is safe after getting stranded in the dark at New Hampshire's Pawtuckaway State Park.

WMUR-TV reported that the three adults and four children were hiking Saturday when it got dark earlier than they expected. Unprepared for the night hiking, they used a cellphone to call police, who used GPS monitoring to find the family and return them to their car.

No one was injured. Fire officials said the incident was the sixth rescue in the park this year, and they're reminding hikers to be better prepared.

Nut, berry crop in Smokies good for bears

TN GATLINBURG — Wildlife experts expect fewer nuisance bears in East Tennessee this fall because a good crop of nuts and berries in the Smokies should prevent them from ranging in search of food.

Acorns from red oaks and chestnut oaks appear to be plentiful, according to media reports. White oak acorns, which are preferred by deer and bears, are also abundant in some parts of the Smokies.

Wildlife populations are still recovering from a mast failure in 2011, which Great Smoky Mountains National Park Biologist Bill Stiver said was "probably one of the worst food years in the history of the park." Mast is the forest seed crop that includes acorns, hickory nuts, walnuts, persimmons, blackgum berries, dogwood berries, black cherries and pine seeds.

Police video recording of protests questioned

NC ASHEVILLE — Civil libertarians are questioning why police officers have been recording images of people attending public events and protests.

The Asheville Citizen-Times reported Sunday that police in that city have spent the last decade recording video of public gatherings under a seemingly unorganized system that now has officials working to comply with state law.

At least some of the gatherings have been political. Asheville police have given conflicting explanations for the practice, from saying the videos aid in training to saying they could be part of criminal investigations.

American Civil Liberties Union in North Carolina spokesman Mike Meno said the recording could have a chilling effect on legal protests, allowing police to keep track of an individual's politics or what types of rallies or events they like to go to.

Inmate reported missing back in custody

SD SIOUX FALLS — A state prison inmate reported missing is back in custody

THE CENSUS

100

The number of years Pensacola, Fla., long known as "The Cradle of Naval Aviation," has trained the Navy's top pilots. Pensacola Naval Air Station hosted a black-tie gala Saturday night to mark the base's 100th anniversary and the 50th anniversary of the National Museum of Naval Aviation, which is housed at the base.



SCOTT MASON, THE WINCHESTER (Va.) STAR/AP

Udder fascination

Charlie Franks, 3, tries her hand at milking a mechanical cow Saturday at the Main Street Agriculture event in Oldtown Winchester, Va.

in South Dakota.

The state Department of Corrections said inmate Kenneth Lamb, 41, returned from his work release job to the penitentiary in Sioux Falls just before 3 a.m. Sunday.

A minimum-security inmate, Lamb is serving a nearly eight-year sentence for fifth-offense DWI and a four-year sentence for fourth-offense DWI. Both sentences originated in Minnehaha County.

More than a dozen dead horses found in barn

CO BLACK FOREST — Authorities said a special unit that responds to animal abuse will handle a case involving more than a dozen dead and malnourished horses found in a Colorado barn.

KRDO-TV reported Sunday that the El Paso County Sheriff's Office mounted unit is investigating the Friday discovery of the horses in Black Forest, near Colorado Springs. A woman who lives near the barn said she found dead horses under tarps, some no more

than skeletons.

At least eight horses were alive.

Sgt. Gregory White said investigators could not legally seize the living horses because they were not in immediate danger. Authorities gave them water and food.

White said the horses' owner has been cooperative in making a plan to improve their health and conditions and has agreed to clean the property.

Coast Guard rescues 2 clinging to boat

WA GRAYS HARBOR — Coast Guard crews rescued two boaters and a dog who were found clinging to their overturned vessel in the water near Westport, Wash., on Saturday.

A crew aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Sea Lion spotted the three while on routine patrol of the waters.

They launched a small boat to rescue the 52-year-old man, a 50-year-old woman and their dog. The people were treated for signs of hypothermia and were taken to the Coast Guard's Grays Harbor

station.

The Coast Guard said the survivors were wearing life jackets. They declined medical help.

Police arrest woman in indecent-exposure case

MD FREDERICK — Police in Maryland said they arrested a woman for indecent exposure and attempted burglary after discovering her partially nude and passed out in someone else's yard in Frederick. Police arrested Lisa Gladhill, 32, of Damascus around 3 p.m. Saturday after receiving a report of indecent exposure.

Police said that when they arrived at the scene they discovered Gladhill nude from the waist down and passed out in a chair in the backyard of a residence that was not hers. Police said Gladhill unsuccessfully tried to go into the victim's house before she was arrested.

An online court record did not list an attorney for Gladhill, and a telephone message left Sunday at a listing for her was not immediately returned.

Fire captain hurt in ice bucket challenge dies

KY LOUISVILLE — A central Kentucky firefighter injured in an "ice bucket challenge" has died a month after a power line shocked him and another man.

Campbellsville Fire Chief Kyle Smith said Tony Grider, 41, died Saturday. Grider was a captain with the department on Aug. 21. He and firefighter Simon Quinn, 22, were on the firetruck's ladder when it got too close to a power line after dumping water onto Campbellsville University's marching band in the charity stunt to raise awareness and funds to fight the disease ALS, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Quinn was released from the hospital Sept. 15.

Two other firefighters were injured, but were released from the hospital.

Campbellsville University, a private college, is about 65 miles south of Louisville.

From wire reports

FACES



FREMANTLEMEDIA NORTH AMERICA & DEARBORN-MERCURY/AP

Former late-night show host Craig Ferguson is now heading up the daytime "Celebrity Name Game." The game show debuted stateside on Monday.

From 'Late Late' to 'Name Game'

Ferguson now hosting syndicated daytime show

By LYNN ELBER
The Associated Press

Craig Ferguson approached his first TV game show host's job with a subversive attitude. Then came the simple matter of his wardrobe for "Celebrity Name Game."

"I thought, 'I'm not going to wear a suit. I'm going to break that rule,'" the Scottish-born Ferguson said. Wrong decision, he quickly realized, after taping the first few episodes of the syndicated daytime show that debuted stateside on Monday.

"When I watched the shows back, I couldn't tell who was in charge," he said.

On came the business suit, fitted over the sly, irreverent style that his nighttime fans know from CBS' "The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson," which began airing in 2005.

He wouldn't have tackled a game show without the opportunity of making it his own, Ferguson, 52, said. "I liked this one because the format was loose and it left a lot of room for playing around and improvisation," he said. "And it's a new format, which meant that people weren't in love with the game itself and wouldn't get mad at me if I started messing around with it."

The challenge, Ferguson said, is to mess around while still observing the rules of the game. He's getting the hang of it as he tapes 180 episodes in a three-month production window, with hopes that the show

is renewed so he can do more mischief.

Courtney Cox is confident he's right for the job. The "Cougartown" and former "Friends" star is an executive producer on the show along with her ex-husband, David Arquette. "Craig is the perfect host," Cox said. "He is hilarious, irreverent and so spontaneous. He is unflappable and really enjoys himself, which is contagious for everyone around him."

The show, based on the board game Identity Crisis, pairs celebrities with contestants to figure out — using improvised clues — the names of actors, singers, athletes, politicians and other famous folk.

Celebrity guests include Sheryl Crow, Vivica A. Fox, Billy Gardell, Lisa Kudrow, Darren Criss, Peter Facinelli, Tony Hale and Mena Suvari. Cox and Arquette also step in front of the camera.

For Ferguson, the game show represents both a change of pace and a transition. He's leaving his CBS late night talk show in December, with British actor James Corden taking over next year.

Ferguson is open to what happens next. Maybe another talk show, he said, maybe not. But with the compressed taping schedule for "Celebrity Name Game," there's definitely room for other endeavors, whether new or familiar.

"I have some ideas ... (but) I'll always do standup, which is kind of my instrument, if you like — the thing I learned to do first."

'Maze Runner' blows away box-office competitors

From wire reports

Adaptations of young-adult books proved their might again at the box office this past weekend as "The Maze Runner" sped past the Liam Neeson thriller "A Walk Among the Tombstones" and the Jason Bateman-Tina Fey comedy-drama "This Is Where I Leave You."

"The Maze Runner" grossed an estimated \$32.5 million in the U.S. and Canada, solidly meeting expectations. "A Walk Among the Tombstones" was second with \$13.1 million. "This Is Where I Leave You," which took in \$11.9 million, was third.

20th Century Fox had cautiously predicted an opening of \$20 million to \$30 million in the U.S. and Canada. But "The Maze Runner" did so well that Chris Aronson, the studio's head of domestic distribution, said Sunday that the studio was picking up the film's sequel, "The Maze Runner: Scorch Trials."

Based on the best-selling thriller by James Dashner, "The Maze Runner" follows Thomas (Dylan O'Brien), who is deposited into a community of young men in a post-apocalyptic world. After learning that they are trapped in a maze, he joins fellow "runners" to try to escape. "The Maze Runner" follows the release of "Divergent," which met expectations in its opening weekend, grossing \$56 million. The first "Hunger Games" film opened at more than \$152 million in March 2012, and its sequel "Catching Fire" opened in November 2013 to \$158 million.

In their second weekends, "No Good Deed" (10.2 million) and "Dolphin Tale 2" (9 million) finished at No. 4 and No. 5.

Pink Floyd album due Nov. 10

Pink Floyd's new album will arrive on Nov. 10.

A Monday news release gives fresh details about "The Endless River," the British rock 'n' roll group's first new material in 20 years.

The 18-song double album features band members David Gilmour, Nick Mason and Richard Wright, who died in 2008. Roger Waters left the group in 1985 and isn't involved.

The album was assembled from 20 hours of material recorded during the band's 1993 sessions for "The Division Bell."

Gilmour says in the release that the band "added new parts, rerecorded others and generally harnessed studio technology to make a 21st-century Pink Floyd album." "The Endless River" is comprised mostly of instrumental music with just one song, "Louder Than Words," that includes new lyrics.

'The Lion King' makes history

Here's something the folks at Disney can take real pride in: "The Lion King" is the top ticket of all time.

With a worldwide gross of over \$6.2 billion, "The Lion King" stage musical has now achieved the most successful box office total of any work in any media in entertainment history, The Associated Press has learned.

By way of comparison, the highest-grossing film in history is "Avatar," with nearly \$2.8 billion worldwide.



LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU/AP

Disney's stage musical "The Lion King" has a worldwide gross of more than \$6.2 billion, the most successful box office total of any work in any media.

Fallon to pay up from Chicago

"Tonight Show" host Jimmy Fallon says he'll keep his word to bring his show to Chicago, thanks to local students making good on their promise to read millions of words this summer.

Fallon announced Sept. 19 on his late-night NBC show that he would make good on the deal he made in June with Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel to host the show from Chicago if the city's public school students read 2.4 million books over the summer. The students did even better, according to the mayor, by reading 2.7 million books as part of his Readers Summer Learning Challenge.

Doug E Fresh a hit at BET Hip-Hop Awards

With a picture of his mother on a large screen behind him, Doug E Fresh struggled to complete his sentence. The rapper dubbed "The Human Beat Box" choked up and shed tears as he received the "I Am Hip-Hop Award" at the ninth BET Hip-Hop Awards on Sept. 20.

Fresh eventually told the crowd that his mother, who had Alzheimer's disease, died five months ago.

"I had to know how to do her," Fresh said at the taped award show in Atlanta. "I want to thank this woman and hip-hop. If it wasn't for hip-hop, I don't know where I would be."

He also thanked those who helped him throughout his career, from Slick Rick to his group the Get Fresh Crew.

The show airs stateside Oct. 14.

Fresh became known for imitating drums and creating special effects using his mouth and a microphone. After his speech, Fresh performed one of his hits, "La Di Da Di" with the show's host, Snoop Dogg.

"He's the definition of moving the crowd," Lucieris said during a video that paid homage to Fresh.

DJ Mustard won Producer of the Year, and Future's song "Move That Dope" took home Best Club Banger award. The most applause came after a recorded freestyle featuring Kanye West, Common, Big Sean and Pusha T. Many of the other awards will be announced later. Rapper Drake had the most nominations with eight. Jay Z, Pharrell and Future each scored six.

From The Associated Press

China, US, India boost carbon pollution

"Time is running short," said Pierre Friedlingstein, of the University of Exeter in England, one

China, the No. 1 carbon polluter, also had more than half the world's increases over 2012.

| INTEREST RATES | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Prime rate | 3.25 |
| Discount rate | 0.75 |
| Federal funds market rate | 0.09 |
| 3-month bill | 0.02 |
| 30-year bond | 3.29 |

TUESDAY IN EUROPE

Map of Europe showing flight destinations from London Luton. Destinations include:

- Iceland: Lajes, Azores 74/57
- Spain: Morón 78/62, Rota 73/66
- France: Mildenhall/Lakenheath 67/53, Brussels 64/48, Stuttgart 62/40, Aylaro 60/38, Vicenza 70/49
- Germany: Ramstein 60/38
- Italy: Naples 77/53, Sigonella 87/62
- Greece: Souda Bay 94/71
- Poland: Pöda 53/40
- Other destinations: Lajes, Azores 74/57, Morón 78/62, Rota 73/66, Mildenhall/Lakenheath 67/53, Brussels 64/48, Stuttgart 62/40, Ramstein 60/38, Aylaro 60/38, Vicenza 70/49, Naples 77/53, Sigonella 87/62, Souda Bay 94/71, Pöda 53/40.

WEDNESDAY IN THE PACIFIC

CHINA

RUSSIA

Pacific Ocean

N. KOREA

Seoul
67/58

Osan
65/57

S. KOREA

Busan
78/65

Iwakuni
77/74

Sasebo
78/72

Okinaawa
85/79

Sea of Japan

JAPAN

Misawa
71/60

Tokyo
78/73

Philippine Sea

Guam
84/78

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

[illegible]

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|------------------|----|----|-------|----------------|-----|----|-------|
| Fret Wayne | 69 | 48 | Cir | Louisville | 73 | 53 | C |
| Fresh | 95 | 65 | Cir | Lubbock | 80 | 60 | C |
| Free | 55 | 35 | PdCdy | Madison | 72 | 51 | C |
| Goodland | 82 | 53 | Cir | Madison | 72 | 51 | C |
| Grand Junction | 82 | 53 | Cir | Madison | 72 | 51 | C |
| Grand Rapids | 72 | 48 | PdCdy | Meigs | 87 | 58 | C |
| Harrisburg | 72 | 48 | PdCdy | Memphis | 87 | 58 | C |
| Green Bay | 68 | 50 | Cir | Miami Beach | 86 | 57 | Rail |
| Greensboro,N.C. | 68 | 50 | Cir | Midland-Oleesa | 83 | 66 | C |
| Hartford | 72 | 48 | PdCdy | Mobile | 72 | 51 | C |
| Hartford Spgflgt | 70 | 46 | Cir | Mo-St Paul | 72 | 51 | C |
| Hawaii | 90 | 74 | PdCdy | Missile | 82 | 67 | C |
| Honolulu | 90 | 74 | Cir | Mpls | 82 | 67 | C |
| Houston | 88 | 63 | Cir | Montgomery | 83 | 60 | C |
| Iowa | 72 | 48 | PdCdy | New Orleans | 83 | 60 | C |
| Indianapolis | 70 | 50 | Cir | New Orleans | 84 | 71 | PdCdy |
| Jackson Miss. | 84 | 59 | Cir | New York City | 69 | 56 | C |
| Jacksonville | 57 | 49 | Cir | New York City | 69 | 56 | C |
| Juneau | 89 | 60 | Cir | Norfolk,Va. | 70 | 62 | PdCdy |
| Kansas City | 75 | 47 | PdCdy | North Platte | 78 | 54 | C |
| Kearney | 78 | 58 | Cir | Oakland Calif | 71 | 49 | C |
| Knoxville | 75 | 49 | Cir | Omaha | 68 | 58 | C |
| Lafayette | 72 | 48 | PdCdy | Oregon | 72 | 51 | C |
| Lansing | 73 | 49 | Cir | Paduach | 74 | 50 | C |
| Las Vegas | 97 | 75 | Cir | Pendleton | 81 | 55 | C |
| Lexington | 79 | 51 | Cir | Perkins | 81 | 55 | C |
| Lincoln | 69 | 57 | PdCdy | Philadelphia | 71 | 56 | C |
| Little Rock | 78 | 54 | Cir | Phoenix | 102 | 79 | C |
| Los Angeles | 78 | 57 | PdCdy | Pittsburgh | 72 | 51 | C |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|-------|-------------------|----|----|--------|
| Ortello | 81 | 50 | C | Sioux City | 68 | 58 | Rain |
| Portland, Maine | 67 | 45 | C | Sioux Falls | 65 | 55 | Rain |
| Portland, Ore. | 65 | 54 | Rain | Spokane | 73 | 57 | Cloudy |
| Pueblo | 68 | 51 | C | Spokane | 79 | 57 | Cloudy |
| Providence | 85 | 53 | C | Springfield, Ill. | 73 | 51 | C |
| Portland, Durham | 81 | 53 | C | Springfield, Mo. | 73 | 51 | C |
| Rapid City | 82 | 54 | PClcy | Syracuse | 66 | 46 | PClcy |
| Reno | 87 | 55 | C | Tallahassee | 66 | 46 | PClcy |
| Richmond | 82 | 60 | C | Tampa | 73 | 53 | Cloudy |
| Roanoke | 72 | 47 | C | Toledo | 71 | 49 | C |
| Rochester | 78 | 48 | PClcy | Topeka | 73 | 53 | Rain |
| Rockford | 73 | 50 | C | Tulsa | 65 | 45 | PClcy |
| Sacramento | 85 | 63 | C | Tulsa | 81 | 56 | PClcy |
| St. Louis | 77 | 53 | C | Waco | 66 | 46 | PClcy |
| St. Petersburg | 86 | 75 | Rain | Washington | 86 | 60 | PClcy |
| St. Thomas | 87 | 61 | C | Washington Beach | 71 | 57 | Cloudy |
| St. Paul | 82 | 61 | C | Wichita | 81 | 58 | Rain |
| Salt Lake City | 82 | 61 | C | Wichita | 81 | 58 | Cloudy |
| San Angelo | 85 | 62 | C | Wichita Falls | 87 | 59 | PClcy |
| San Antonio | 85 | 62 | C | Wilmington, Del. | 71 | 53 | C |
| San Diego | 78 | 69 | PClcy | Yonkers | 65 | 45 | PClcy |
| San Francisco | 74 | 64 | PClcy | Youngstown | 66 | 46 | C |
| San Jose | 80 | 61 | C | | | | |
| San Mateo | 79 | 52 | PClcy | | | | |
| Santa Fe | 79 | 52 | PClcy | | | | |
| Seattle | 81 | 61 | PClcy | | | | |
| Savannah | 81 | 63 | C | | | | |
| Seattle | 69 | 61 | C | | | | |
| St. Louis Report | | | | | | | |

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 3rd Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

National temperature extremes
 Jun., 105, Death Valley, Calif.
 Jun., 28, West Yellowstone, Mont.
 Daniel, Wyo.

Stripes

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Ernie Gates

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OPINION

Couples counseling for countries?

BY ALEXANDRA PETRI
The Washington Post

Scottish voters have spoken: They are staying. The union that has weathered 307 years of storms — if you didn't quit right after the Victorian era, you'd think you wouldn't quit at all — has survived a vote on the question of Scottish independence.

Now, with the voting done and the crowds dispersed, the Lion and the Unicorn sit down in the dining room of the humble home they have officially shared for 300 years, not including the reign of King James, a courtship period during which they were still feeling each other out.

A hush falls. "Is there anything I can get you?" England asks. "Foot rub? More autonomy?" Scotland ignores it.

"That kilt looks lovely," England says. "Really lovely. Love kilts," England's fork clatters against its plate. "This haggis is great," England adds. "I didn't bring it up a lot during the referendum campaign, but I was going to really miss it."

"Thanks," Scotland says, unenthusiastically.

"And the sound of bagpipes," England says. "You look lovely today. Did I mention that? Your cheeks especially. And bags."

"Calm down," Scotland says. "I know you've been threatening to leave for years," England says. "But I didn't think you'd really — I mean, other territories have come and gone, but I thought we were still strong. What we have is special, I thought."

"Oh, a special relationship?" Scotland asks. "Like you have with the United States?"

"You know it's not like that," England says. "You haven't been with us for almost 250 years. Listen, you've given us so much. Peter Capaldi, there's a man. The poet Burns. Golf. Mel Gibson."

"Are you just going to list things?" Scotland says. "I could do without you just listing things like that."

"I just don't want you to feel that I don't notice and appreciate all that you do," England says, moving the haggis around on its plate. "Because I do. James McAvoy, now there's a fellow. John Loudon MacAdam, the man with the nuts and the roads. And 'Macbeth.' The Scottish play."



LYNNE CAMERON, PA/AP

Yes campaign supporters in the Scottish referendum gather in Glasgow, Scotland, on Friday. From the capital of Edinburgh to the far-flung Shetland Islands, Scots embraced a historic moment while the rest of the United Kingdom held its breath.

"You're just saying things with 'Mac' in them," Scotland says. "You could be guessing."

"I'm not guessing!" England says. "I appreciate you. Think what I'd be without you. Where would we keep the royals during some seasons of the year?"

"Really?" Scotland says. "Balmora? Really, that's the first thing that occurred to you?"

"No," England says. "Of course not. Other things occurred to me. I was trying for a note of levity."

"Oh," Scotland says. "Levity."

"It would have been really awkward if you'd left," England says, after a silence. "I mean, Ireland is its own island, so that made a certain sort of sense, but for you to go — it would have sent the wrong message. We would still be occupying the same space, and it really isn't a huge island when you come right down to it."

"That's true," Scotland says.

"I mean, we'd still shop at the same places, and we share a border — I mean, you

have to consider the border; it's not going anywhere. At any rate, I intend not to take you for granted any longer. Things will be different. I want you to know that."

"Do you mean that?" Scotland asks. "Do you really?"

"Oh yes," England says. "You know I do. We're the Lion and Unicorn, just like the poem. The lion and the unicorn were fighting for the crown..."

"I know the poem," Scotland says. Scotland pours itself a large glass of Scotch and sips it, staring out the window. "I think I made the right decision. It just wasn't a good time to leave, financially, and we're stronger together."

"Quite right," England says. "Besides, if you'd gone, think what Wales might have done. Or Texas might get ideas."

"You don't seriously care about Texas, do you?"

"No," England says. "I suppose not. But it's the principle of the thing."

Alexandra Petri writes the ComPost blog at www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/compost.

We should be fighting cyberattacks vigilantly

The Washington Post editorial

Home Depot, which calls itself "the world's largest home improvement retailer," has a new distinction. It is now the scene of the world's largest known theft of consumer credit card information. A cyber-attack has put at risk the data of about 56 million customers between April and September. That exceeds the approximately 40 million credit accounts breached at Target stores, the previous all-time high.

In the same week that Home Depot revealed the loss, the Senate Armed Services Committee reported on a yearlong investigation that found Chinese hackers penetrated computer systems run by contractors for the U.S. military agency responsible for the transport of troops and material on at least 20 occasions. It's not clear what the hackers were looking for, but keep in mind that private airlines provide more than 90 percent of the Pentagon's passenger movement capability and more than a third of its bulk-cargo capability, according to the

panel. This is the kind of computer network that the military would not like to share with a potential adversary. And the U.S. Transportation Command knew of only two of the intrusions.

What these events show once again is that the United States is under siege in cyberspace. Disruption, theft, espionage and attack have been accelerating in recent years. The crisis of security on the Internet is real and deepening. The vulnerabilities threaten everyone who holds a credit card, visits a doctor or uses social media. Yet the national response has been alarmingly and inexplicably passive. Congress has debated comprehensive legislation — which we endorsed — but failed to reach agreement. The administration is well aware of the siege and has taken some modest steps, but it can't solve the problem alone. The private sector, deeply dependent on the Internet, is seriously exposed but also cannot find a solution.

The Home Depot and Target attacks were carried out through malware planted on the card-reader machines that custom-

ers use to check out. Brian Krebs, the computer security expert who broke the story of the breach, said that most of the thefts apparently occurred in self-checkout machines. As customers swiped their credit cards, buying light bulbs or toilet repair kits or some other Saturday fix-it product, their information was siphoned off the magnetic strip and off the card reader by thieves. A transition to a more secure chip-and-PIN card system is well underway but not fast enough to protect 56 million Home Depot customers.

Surely, if customers saw a pickpocket standing behind them, they would be wary — and furious. But there is a strange complacency about massive data breaches. As a society that has championed capitalism, pioneered the digital revolution and thrived on an Internet based on trust, Americans should be far less tolerant of this abuse. The thieves, spies and warriors in cyberspace need to be defeated, and it is long past time to get started figuring out how.

OPINION

After 2,000 years, Christianity in Iraq is finished

By DANIEL WILLIAMS

IRBIL, Iraq

In the part of his Sept. 10 speech on confronting the Islamic State that probably drew the least attention, President Barack Obama mentioned the need to help Christians and other minorities, expelled from cities and villages in northern Iraq, return from where they came. "We cannot allow these communities to be driven from their ancient homeland," he said.

Obama got that wrong. Christians, of whom around 120,000 have taken refuge in Iraqi Kurdistan, will not be going home even if their tormentors suddenly disappear.

I spent 10 days talking with Christian refugees in Irbil, the capital of the northern autonomous region of Kurdistan, this month, and they are adamant they will not be returning to Mosul and nearby towns on what is known as the Nineveh Plain.

It is not simply that these Christians have gone through tremendous trauma. It is not only because they lost everything, including their homes and businesses, and in some cases spent days and even weeks in detention while being badgered to convert to Islam, where they saw babies taken from mothers' arms to be held for ransom and busloads of young people ferried off into the unknown.

Nor is it because their neighbors, in Mosul but especially in the countryside, welcomed and even joined fighters from the Islamic State, pointed out the homes of minorities and let them know which ones were wealthy.

No, it is because, for Christians in Iraq, the past three months have been the climax of 11 years of hell. We Americans have short memories (that goes for you, too, in the "Bush Was Right" crowd), but it's worth noting that Christians began having serious problems within a year after the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003. Sometimes it was the work of al-Qaida, sometimes Sunni insurgents pining for the return of Sunni control of Iraq. Sometimes it was Shiite militias fighting the Sunnis but finding time to persecute Christians.

First came assaults on stores that sold



BRAM JANSSEN/AP

A Kurdish pesh merga fighter stands guard near the Khazir bridge, on the road between Mosul and Irbil, Iraq, destroyed by Islamic State fighters during clashes with Kurdish forces on Saturday. The destruction of the bridge has cut off the road for civilians to Mosul and nearby Christian villages.

alcohol. Then, in August 2004, bombs were placed outside five churches in Baghdad and Mosul. Eleven people died. Two more churches were bombed in November, and Christians began to flee to Kurdistan, Jordan and Syria. Since then, at least 60 churches in the country have been bombed. The latest was in Baghdad on Christmas Day last year.

Priests and bishops became particular targets, in order to deliver a message to their flock that no one is safe. In Mosul in June 2007, gunmen shot dead a Chaldean Catholic priest and three deacons because the priest refused to convert to Islam. The next year gunmen kidnapped Mosul's

Chaldean archbishop, Paul Rahho, and killed his driver and two bodyguards. The abductors stuffed Rahho into the trunk of a car, from where he was able to call a colleague by mobile phone and instruct the church not to pay ransom. He was found dead a few days later in a shallow grave.

Attacks on lay Christians were continuous. Women received threatening messages demanding that they stop working. Families received death threats attached to demands for money called "daftar," slang for \$10,000. Children were taken and held for ransom. Both Sunni and Shites, though busy with what amounted to a civil war, found time to attack and expel Chris-

tians from the Baghdad suburb of Dora.

All this predated the Islamic State.

One priest, himself ransomed for \$85,000 in Baghdad seven years ago, said a Muslim acquaintance once warned him, "Saturday's gone. Why are you still here on Sunday?" His meaning was that Jews, who worship on Saturdays, had fled Iraq long ago, so why were the Christians still there?

Indeed, the exodus of Christians is ongoing. Has anyone noticed that the Christian population of Iraq has shrunk from more than 1 million in 2003 to maybe 300,000 today? Now, there are virtually no Christians left in either Mosul or on the plain.

So when I ask refugees their plans, it is unanimously to leave Iraq altogether. Enough is enough. This runs counter to the desire, expressed mostly outside Iraq, that a Christian presence be preserved in a land that has known Christianity for 2,000 years. It's sad but true: Christianity in Iraq is finished. As one refugee told me, "We wanted Iraq, Iraq doesn't want us."

Humanitarian aid, mentioned by Obama, is fine and necessary. But the broader problem faced by refugees — the fact that Christians and other minorities will likely never return to Iraq — is left unaddressed.

The United States and Europe both have provisions for providing temporary protection to refugees who can't go home; it falls short of asylum but nonetheless can provide people with economic help to get them on their feet while keeping open the possibility, unlikely as it seems, of returning to Iraq. France has already taken a couple of planeloads of Christians out of Kurdistan. Much more is needed. Western countries ought to come together and offer refuge to the tens of thousands who want to leave Iraq.

Yes, this would mean the end of Christianity in this part of the world, where its presence has often served as a bulwark against fanaticism. But it's over anyway, whatever happens to the Islamic State. It's time to face that fact and save the Christians themselves.

Daniel Williams is a former senior researcher at Human Rights Watch and Washington Post correspondent.

All-seeing Apple watch an ankle monitor that nags

By GINA BARRECA

The Hartford Courant

Apple is coming out with a new watch, the sleek to be worn on your wrist. They're not calling it an "iWatch" because they don't want you to think they'll be watching.

But you know they will be. "I wanna watch" will be the cry of those asking for a verb, not a noun.

Watching isn't the only thing they'll be doing, either. They'll be counting our carbs and counting our steps, monitoring our fluid intake as well as our workday's output, and weighing our acts of judgment right along with weighing our bodies.

The "iWatch," according to the hype, will allow us to put away our wallets because we'll be able to use Apple Pay to "buy coffee, groceries and more" right from our wrists.

Can you believe it's taken this long? I mean, the extraordinary exertion involved in reaching for a piece of plastic, not to mention the sleight to be worn on the act of swiping, takes an unconscionable amount of time and is one of the leading causes

of muscular cramping of both thumb and index finger in many first-world nations.

Think of the value to humanity. Consider the legions of otherwise healthy women carried out of Nordstrom's all over our great nation daily because of their retail-related injuries; imagine suffering that will be alleviated when we no longer have men on gurneys being airlifted from parking lots next to L.L. Bean who were tragically brought low by the swift and repeated use of their cards while buying kayaks and Thules.

Soon we'll all be attached to a wee computer that nags — because we'll want to be. The fact that we're choosing this entrapment is the amazing part.

It won't be strapped on us against our will, like an ankle monitor worn by a parolee, but it's not as far removed from one as you might think. We'll be signing up to make sure somebody knows where we are at all times. We'll never walk alone, not even if we want to.

The main difference is that we'll be able to choose the color.

In addition to telling us how many calories we've burned and how many minutes

of "brisk activity we've enjoyed" (it's too easy to make a sexual joke here, so I won't), it will also tell us how often we've taken a break from sitting down. In my case, my intake of calories will be, oh, roughly 17 times the number I burn in brisk activity or getting out of my chair.

In other words, the "iWatch" will not provide information to help me improve my sense of self-esteem or improve my health but, instead, with all that electronic nagging will make me more stubborn and set my invidious ways more firmly into the unyielding cement of habit.

Sure, it'll try to make us a better people. It will, apparently, reward us for good behavior. "Earn special badges for a variety of achievements," says the hype. "Not only is it a nice reminder of what you've accomplished, but it also encourages you to keep going." I prefer when the casino gives me points toward meals, to be honest.

I'm not sure what a badge or a high-five from my latest accessory will do for me in the long run except make me get nostalgic for Green Stamps. At least with Green Stamps, if you got enough of them, you could get a toaster. If you get good grades

from your jewelry, I don't think it counts for much.

Our electronic Jimmy Cricket will, no doubt, tell us when we're slouching, when we've made a bad investment, eaten too many avocado halves, pakoras or cannoli, made a fool of ourselves in front of a large group, bought the wrong outfit, and when we've spent too much time with that loser who'll never amount to anything.

All of this means it has finally happened: Family will now be entirely replaceable by technology. Aunts will go out of business.

The most intriguing option? "The built-in heart rate sensor sends your heartbeat. It's a simple and intimate way to tell someone how you feel." That's what Apple's advertising tells us.

Readers, you know that somebody's out there right now working on a way to simulate heartbeat patterns. Soon you'll be able to fake your own heartbeat.

Just watch.

Gina Barreca is an English professor at the University of Connecticut, a feminist scholar who has written eight books, and a columnist for the Hartford Courant.

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MLB ROUNDUP

Astros drop Mariners further behind KC

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Seattle Mariners left Houston lamenting their missed opportunities.

Their playoff hopes took another hit, as Jake Marisnick had a three-run homer for the second straight game and Alex Presley drove in two runs to lead the Astros to an 8-3 win over the Mariners on Sunday.

Houston took two of three from the Mariners, who dropped to 1½ games behind Kansas City for the second AL wild card with the loss.

"The only thing you can say is we haven't done our jobs," Seattle second baseman Robinson Cano said. "The last couple of games we have men in scoring position and we haven't done our job. We just aren't very consistent."

Manager Lloyd McClendon looked on the bright side instead of wallowing in what might have been.

"I choose to be very positive," he said. "We lost a tough series, but we're still in this thing, and I guarantee you there's a lot of teams that wish they were in our position right now."

Rookie Collin McHugh (11-9) allowed four hits and three runs in six innings to extend his career-best winning streak to seven. He's the first Astros pitcher to win seven straight since Roy Oswalt reeled off nine in a row from Aug. 23, 2006, to April 17, 2007.

The Astros trailed 3-1 in the fifth inning before an RBI double by Jose Altuve. A two-run single by Presley, who finished with three hits, came with two outs in the inning to make it 4-3 and chase Hisashi Iwakuma (14-9).

Michael Saunders hit a two-run homer for the Mariners, who were outhit 14 to seven.

Iwakuma was trying to bounce back from his last two starts where he was 0-2 with a 12.91 ERA. Instead, he allowed six hits and four runs in 4½ innings for yet another loss.

"I don't recall being in a stretch like this for so long," Iwakuma said through a translator. "But this is part of your experience. You want to learn from your failures and hopefully I can turn it around quick."

Houston was still up by one in the seventh when Marisnick padded the lead with his homer to the Crawford Boxes that made it 7-3. Two of Marisnick's three homers this season have come in the last two games.

Reds 7, Cardinals 2: Host St. Louis clinched a playoff spot, and then lost to Cincinnati.

The Cardinals secured their fourth consecutive postseason appearance when Milwaukee lost to Pittsburgh earlier in the day. But their lead in the NL Central was



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Mariners second baseman Robinson Cano drops a grounder by the Astros' Jose Altuve during the first inning on Sunday. Altuve was safe and Cano was charged with an error.

sliced to 2½ games over the Pirates.

Jay Bruce hit two of Cincinnati's four homers as the Reds snapped a six-game losing streak. Todd Frazier and Devin Mesoraco also went deep.

Reds right-hander Alfredo Simon (15-10) allowed two runs and seven hits in six innings.

Lance Lynn (15-10) gave up three runs and four hits in six innings for St. Louis.

Dodgers 8, Cubs 5: At Chicago, Matt Kemp homered and drove in four runs, and Yasiel Puig scored a career-high four times for NL West-leading Los Angeles.

Kemp had four hits for the Dodgers, who clinched a playoff berth on Friday and lead San Francisco by 4½ games. The Giants started a three-game series at Dodger Stadium on Monday.

James Wright made his first start since

Sept. 1, 2013, going two innings as the Dodgers used their bullpen to pitch the whole game. Chris Perez (1-3) got the win and Kenley Jansen earned his 43rd save.

Padres 8, Giants 2: Reeling San Francisco managed just six hits off Ian Kennedy and three relievers, losing to San Diego and falling 4½ games behind the Dodgers in the NL West.

The Giants are still in good shape for a wild-card berth — they're tied with Pittsburgh, 4½ games ahead of Milwaukee.

Kennedy (12-13) struck out five, giving him a career-high 201.

Ryan Vogelsong (8-12) held the Padres hitless until Seth Smith doubled leading off the fifth.

Indians 7, Twins 2: Corey Kluber matched a career best by striking out 14 for the second straight start and visiting

Cleveland didn't lose any ground in the playoff chase with a win over Minnesota.

The Indians have won five of six.

Cleveland is 3½ games behind Kansas City for the second AL wild card, and hosts the Royals for three-plus games beginning Monday. In addition to Monday's regularly scheduled meeting, the teams will complete the Aug. 31 game in Kansas City that was suspended in the middle of the 10th inning due to rain with Cleveland up 4-2.

Rangers 2, Angels 1: Ryan Rua hit his first major league homer, connecting off Huston Street in the ninth inning as visiting Texas beat the playoff-bound Angels for its eighth win in nine games.

The Rangers, who have the worst record in majors, took two of three from the Angels, who have the best record.

Red Sox 3, Orioles 2: At Baltimore, Joe Kelly pitched seven innings of three-hit ball and Boston got home runs from Mookie Betts and David Ross.

The Red Sox took two of three from the Orioles, who have been playing without several regulars in the lineup since clinching the AL East title on Tuesday.

Yankees 5, Blue Jays 2: Masahiro Tanaka made a triumphant return from an elbow injury that sidelined him for 2½ months and a rejuvenated Derek Jeter got two more hits on his final homestand, leading the Yankees to the victory.

The Yankees are 4½ games out of the second AL wild-card spot with a week left. The retiring Jeter went 8-for-15 with two doubles, a home run and three RBIs in his next-to-last home series.

Tanaka (13-4) made his first start since being sidelined by a small tear in his elbow in early July. He has tried to recover with rest and rehabilitation, rather than Tommy John surgery.

White Sox 10, Rays 5: Avisail Garcia hit two home runs, John Danks took a no-hit bid into the sixth inning and visiting Chicago beat Tampa Bay in its home finale.

Nationals 2, Marlins 1: Stephen Strasburg pitched seven shutout innings and NL-leading Washington swept a four-game series from host Miami.

The NL East champion Nationals have won eight of nine.

Strasburg (13-11) allowed three hits. Rafael Soriano got through the ninth for his 32nd save in 39 chances.

Mets 10, Braves 2: Host Atlanta was knocked out of the playoff race after a late-season collapse, losing for the 14th time in 18 September games as New York's Jacob deGrom (9-6) struck out 10 in six innings.

Rockies 8, Diamondbacks 3: Michael Cuddyer homered, Rafael Ynoa drove in three runs and host Colorado completed a four-game sweep.

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MLB

KC closes on playoff berth with victory

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Each win moves the Royals one step closer to the end of their long playoff drought, and Sunday was a big one.

Nori Aoki hit a two-run triple, and Kansas City beat the Detroit Tigers 5-2 to avoid a sweep in the weekend series between the AL Central's top teams.

'Today's game shows that we're not going away.'

Ned Yost
Royals manager

"Today's game shows that we're not going away," Royals manager Ned Yost said. "They have that feeling. They had that feeling this morning that they knew this was going to be a big game. They had a lot of confidence in themselves when they hit the field."

Kansas City pulled within 1½ games of Detroit for the top spot in the division. The Royals, looking for their first playoff appearance since they won the World Series in 1985, also stayed in position for a wild card. The Tigers finish the season at home with seven games against Chicago and Minnesota.

"Hopefully we'll come home and it'll get loud," Tigers outfielder Torii Hunter said. "It's going to be fun. It shouldn't be hard to get pumped up. If you don't have that adrenaline now you're not human. You should check your pulse."

Aoki's tiebreaking triple in the fourth scored Omar Infante and Mike Moustakas, making it 4-2 and chasing Rick Porcello from the game.

"It would have been nice to get two or three wins (against Detroit), but one win means we're still in good position," Aoki said. "We're going to play our best and leave it all out on the road."

Porcello (15-12) is 0-4 in his past five starts. He yielded nine hits and walked two in 3½ innings.

Kansas City's Jeremy Guthrie (12-11) pitched out of a bases-loaded jam in the second and was pulled after 81 pitches and 5½ innings, yielding one earned run.



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

The Royals' Norichika Aoki celebrates after hitting a two-run triple during the fourth inning of Sunday's game against the Detroit Tigers in Kansas City, Mo.



TONY AVELAR/AP

The Athletics' Nick Punto dives into third base on a triple against the Philadelphia Phillies on Sunday in Oakland, Calif.



TONY AVELAR/AP

Oakland's Josh Donaldson is doused by teammates after his two-run 10th-inning home run lifted the Athletics over the Philadelphia Phillies 8-6 on Sunday.

A's top Philly in 10th

Donaldson's 2-run HR lifts sputtering Oakland

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — There's only a week left in the regular season, which may seem like an eternity for the Oakland Athletics.

The A's are 13-26 since Aug. 10, and a postseason spot that once seemed certain is now a bit more tenuous. The AL West title has already been lost, leaving Oakland hoping for a wild card that isn't yet assured.

But after an 8-6 win over Philadelphia on Sunday — only the second time in two weeks Oakland scored more than four runs — the A's lead Kansas City by a half-game for the American League's top wild card. Seattle is two games behind the A's — so that's the cushion for an Oakland team that

simply wants to reach the finish line without losing everything.

"I think we're definitely pressing to right the ship. You can see it in our demeanor, in the way things happened," first baseman Brandon Moss said. "But you're danged if you do, danged if you don't. ... It's just been frustrating."

The A's had another close call Sunday, winning in the tenth inning when Josh Donaldson hit a two-run homer to lift Oakland to a their second victory in three games.

"Those are the moments I always want to be in," Donaldson said after his third game-ending homer of the year, matching, among others, Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson for the franchise mark in a season.

Pirates beat Brewers to move 4½ up

BY WILL GRAVES

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Vance Worley is used to his body breaking down at this point in the season.

An unexpected break allowed the Pittsburgh Pirates right-hander to regroup. He responded with his sharpest outing in two months to push the fading Milwaukee Brewers closer to an extended vacation of their own.

Bumped from the starting rotation in favor of a seemingly healed Charlie Morton last week, Worley returned with eight sparkling innings in Sunday's 1-0 win over the Brewers as the surging Pirates closed in on a second consecutive playoff berth.

Russell Martin singled home Andrew McCutchen in the seventh inning and the Pirates trapped speedy Carlos Gomez in a rundown in the ninth for the win.

Pittsburgh moved 4½ games in front of Milwaukee for an NL wild-card spot with a week to go. Worley (8-4) scattered four hits and the Pirates used some smart fielding in the ninth to help All-Star setup man Tony Watson pick up his first save of the year.

"I got the start off, got some time to get my feet back under me," Worley said. "This is the deepest I've gone into the season the last couple years with injury, so this was good for me."

Certainly looked like it. Worley struck out five and didn't issuing a walk while throwing 63 of his 82 pitches for strikes.

"Vance wasn't nipping," said Martin, his catcher.



GENE J. PUSKAS/AP

A wild pitch from Milwaukee Brewers starting pitcher Wily Peralta gets away from catcher Jonathan Lucroy with the Pirates' Russell Martin, right, at bat in the seventh inning of Sunday's game in Pittsburgh. Pirates' Andrew McCutchen advanced to third on the error and scored on a single by Martin. The Pirates won 1-0.

SPORTS BRIEFS/NFL



CARLOS OSORIO/AP

The Atlanta Braves have fired general manager Frank Wren one day after the team was eliminated from the NL playoff race.

Briefly

Braves fire GM Wren

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — The Atlanta Braves have fired general manager Frank Wren.

The move was announced Monday by team president John Schuerholz, one day after the team was eliminated from the NL playoff race.

Schuerholz has appointed former major league executive and MLB Network analyst John Hart as the team's interim general manager.

The Braves have formed a three-person team to conduct the search for Wren's replacement. It will include Schuerholz, Hart and former Braves manager Bobby Cox.

Wren was in his 15th season with the Braves and his seventh as the club's general manager.

In other MLB news:

■ New York's attorney general is warning baseball fans against possible scams for secondhand baseball tickets as famed Yankee Derek Jeter finishes his career.

His last likely game in Yankee Stadium in the Bronx is Thursday against the Baltimore Orioles. His final scheduled outing is Sunday against the Red Sox in Boston's Fenway Park.

Attorney General Eric Schneiderman's Consumer Frauds Bureau advises checking the reputation of online ticket brokers, remaining wary of tickets printed at home and avoiding paying with cash, wire transfer or prepaid money transfer.

Clemson coach says freshman QB will start

CLEMSON, S.C. — Clemson coach Dabo Swinney says five-star freshman quarterback Deshaun Watson will get the start in the next game against North Carolina.

Swinney said Sunday that Watson's play in a 23-17 overtime loss to No. 1 Florida State earned him the right to start Saturday.

Senior Cole Stoudt had started the first three games for the Tigers (1-2, 0-1 Atlantic Coast Conference), but Watson came in early against the Seminoles and threw for 266 yards on 19 of 28 passing.

In other college football news:

■ Rutgers running back Paul James will miss the rest of the season after he tore a knee ligament during the Scarlet Knights' victory against Navy.

Eagles rally for 3-0 mark

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The Philadelphia Eagles are as unpredictable as possible.

Also as predictable.

Huh?

The 2014 version of the Eagles does several things consistently, most notably falling behind, then rallying. They did it again Sunday in a 37-34 victory over Washington, becoming the first NFL team to fall at least 10 points behind in each of their first three games, then come back to win.

"It's a family," said quarterback Nick Foles, who threw for three touchdowns and was the recipient of a blind-side block on an apparent interception that sparked a brawl. "We stick together and there's a great camaraderie. ... Today we had each other's backs."

They can score with anyone, too: 101 points in their three victories.

"We can score quick and we can score in bunches," said Jeremy Maclin, whose 27-yard touchdown reception in the fourth quarter put Philadelphia on top of Washington (1-2) to stay.

Former Eagles wide receiver DeSean Jackson caught an 81-yard touchdown pass from Kirk Cousins to tie it 27-27 for the Redskins and added a Rockettes-style kick to his celebration as his former fans loudly booed. He gained 117 yards on five catches.



DAVID MAIILETTI, PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS/AP

Philadelphia's Jason Peters, right, and Washington's Chris Baker, left, tussle after a fourth-quarter play as line judge Darryl Lewis tries to break it up on Sunday in Philadelphia. Both players were ejected. The Eagles won 37-34.

Kids: Backup quarterbacks get roughed up

FROM BACK PAGE

pass since 2008, pitching the football to receiver Mohamed Sanu before getting it back on a catch-and-run that covered 18 yards during a 33-7 win over Tennessee 33-7. And Browns backup Johnny Manziel was involved in an even wackier trick play that involved pretending to argue with offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan before collecting a pass from Brian Hoyer for what would have been a 39-yard gain had it not been erased by a penalty.

Bad news for backups

The hits keep coming for the league's starting quarterbacks,

and with Matt Cassel breaking his left foot during a scramble during Minnesota's 20-9 loss to New Orleans, rookie Teddy Bridgewater takes over for the Vikings. Assuming Tampa Bay's Josh McCown misses time with a thumb injury from Thursday's loss to Atlanta, six clubs will have needed to turn a reserve QB into a starter at least once because of injury. That's nearly 20 percent of the NFL — and that's only through Week 3.

Surprisingly unbeaten

The Eagles keep falling behind by 10, but keep winning. The Cardinals are without injured quar-

terback Carson Palmer, and keep winning. The Bengals' defense is allowing a league-low 11 points per game, so it makes sense that they keep winning. Those are the NFL's only 3-0 teams.

Don't jump for joy

Detroit linebacker Stephen Tulloch claimed he wasn't embarrassed by his unusual injury, even though he had to leave Sunday's 19-7 victory over Green Bay after hurting his left knee while celebrating a sack of Aaron Rodgers. Tulloch jumped, then fell to the ground; he tried to stay in the game but didn't last long.

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NEX EXCHANGE

NFL

Cards outslug 49ers behind QB Stanton

By BOB BAUM
The Associated Press

GLENDAL, Ariz. — The Arizona Cardinals were supposed to backslide with the loss of starting quarterback Carson Palmer.

That hasn't happened.

For the second week in a row, backup Drew Stanton directed the Cardinals to victory, this time a 24-13 triumph over the San Francisco 49ers. The win on Sunday left Arizona 3-0 and alone atop the NFC West heading into next week's bye.

"This was a huge step to a great season ahead of us," Arizona cornerback Patrick Peterson said.

The 49ers, meanwhile, fell flat in the second half for the second week in a row. San Francisco was outscored 17-0 in the second half. For the season, opponents have outscored the 49ers 52-3 in the final two quarters. San Francisco could take heart in the fact that they started 1-2 last year, then went 10-3 the rest of the way.

Stanton threw a pair of third-quarter touchdown passes to rookie John Brown and the Cardinals' defense stiffened in the second half. The 49ers helped out with six of their nine penalties. Overall, the 49ers were penalized 107 yards.

The Cardinals snapped a four-game losing streak against San Francisco, beating the 49ers for only the second time in 11 tries. The Cardinals are also 3-0 for the first time (1974 and 2012) in its 116-year history. The 2012 team started 4-0 and the 1974 team began with a 7-0 streak.

"We talk about making a state-



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Cardinals quarterback Drew Stanton threw two touchdown passes in the second half of the 23-14 win over the San Francisco 49ers on Sunday in Glendale, Ariz.

ment in our divisional games at home," Arizona coach Bruce Arians said, "making this a tough place to come to, and that was a big victory for us."

Dating to last year, the Cardinals have won 10 of 12 games. The Cardinals have come back from a second-half deficit in all three of their victories this year and were down 14-6 at the break on Sunday.

"Guys listening at halftime," Arians explained, "listening to the adjustments and coming out positive. We talked about the first five minutes of the third quarter being huge ... We were able to get the touchdown. From there it snowballed. The crowd was fantastic, and I can't say enough about how they helped in the second half of these games."

Scoreboard

FROM PAGE 28

Chargers 22, Bills 10

| | | | |
|-----------|---|---|--------|
| San Diego | 6 | 7 | 2-22 |
| Buffalo | 0 | 3 | 7 0-10 |

First Quarter

SD—Royal 3 pass from Rivers (Novak kick), 9:45.

Second Quarter

SD—FG Novak 19, 10:18.

Buf—FG Carpenter 45, 2:56.

SD—FG Novak 37, 2:11.

Third Quarter

SD—Royal 5 pass from Rivers (Novak kick), 7:31.

Buf—Jackson 11 pass from Manuel (Carpenter kick), 1:16.

Fourth Quarter

SD—Team safety, 3:23.

A—68:61.1.

| | SD | Buf |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| First downs | 20 | 18 |
| Total yards | 336 | 232 |
| Rushes-yards | 37-89 | 22-87 |
| Passing | 25-285 | 20-255 |
| Punt Returns | 3-46 | 1-0 |
| Kickoff Returns | 0-3-44 | 0-0 |
| Interceptions Ret. | 18-25-0 | 23-40-0 |
| Sacked-Yards Lost | 1-5-33 | 3-33 |
| Punts | 6-49.2 | 5-45.2 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 1-0-0 | 1-0 |
| Penalties-Yards | 6-44 | 11-110 |
| Time of Possession | 31:24 | 28:26 |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—San Diego, Brown 31-162, O'Leary 11, Rivers 2-22, Woodhead 1-1, Bufalo, Jackson 6-34, Spiller 10-25, Manuel 5-24, Summers 1-4.

Passing—San Diego, Rivers 18-25-0-256, Bufalo, Manuel 23-39-0-238, Jackson 0-1-0-0.

Receiving—San Diego, Brown 5-27, Green 4-64, Royal 4-42, Floyd 2-98, Allen 2-18, Rivers 2-22, Woodhead 1-1, Bufalo, Jackson 9-8, Spiller 3-37, Woods 3-19, Watkins 2-14, Millwright 2-11.

Missed field goals—None.

Seahawks 26, Broncos 20 (OT)

| | | | | | |
|---------|---|----|---|----|------|
| Denver | 3 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 0-20 |
| Seattle | 3 | 14 | 0 | 3 | 6-26 |

First Quarter

Sea—FG Hauschka 20, 10:33.

Den—FG McManus 24, 10:27.

Second Quarter

Sea—Locke 39 pass from Wilson (Hauschka kick), 3:05.

Sea—Lynch 5 pass from Wilson (Hauschka kick), 3:12.

Fourth Quarter

Den—Lynch safety, 13:07.

Sea—FG Hauschka 28, 5:59.

Den—Tammie 26 pass from Manning (McManus kick), 9:20.

Sea—Lynch 5 pass from Manning (McManus kick), 11:30.

Overtime

Sea—Lynch 6 run, 9:14.

A—68:44.7.

| | Den | Sea |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| First downs | 20 | 32 |
| Total Net Yards | 332 | 384 |
| Rushes-yards | 20-126 | 37-129 |
| Passing | 2-96 | 255 |
| Punt Returns | 20-36 | 5-36 |
| Kickoff Returns | 1-22 | 1-13 |
| Interceptions Ret. | 1-13 | 1-52 |
| Comp. Att.-Int. | 31-49-1 | 25-35-2 |
| Sacked-Yards Lost | 1-7 | 3-20 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 8-47-3 | 6-50-2 |
| Penalties-Yards | 4-27 | 38-04 |
| Time of Possession | 27:42 | 38:04 |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Denver, Ball 14-38, Hillman 2-2, Green 1-0, Manning 1-(-)15, Anderson 1-7, Peterson 1-10, Hillman 1-0, Turbin 2-1.

Passing—Denver, Manning 31-49-1-35, Wilson 24-34-1-258, Kearse 1-1-0-17.

Receiving—Denver, Sanders 11-149, Welker 6-60, D.Thomas 4-31, Thomas 3-17, Tammie 2-22, Ball 2-6, Green 1-10, Hillman 1-7, Anderson 1-1, Seattle, Harvin 7-42, Baldwin 4-55, Lynch 3-40, Kearse 2-22, Wilkins 2-22, Miller 2-12, Lockette 1-39, Wilson 1-17, Coleman 1-14, Richardson 1-7, Turbin 1-4.

Missed field goals—Seattle, Hauschka 46 (WL).



JOSHUA TRUILLO, SEATTLEPI.COM/AP

Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch flies into the end zone for the winning touchdown in overtime to seal the Seahawks' 26-20 win over the Denver Broncos on Sunday in Seattle.

Manning, Broncos force OT, but Seahawks win rematch

By TIM BOOTH
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — For a coach that preaches fourth-quarter performance as one of his guiding team philosophies, Pete Carroll will cringe looking back on what happened in the final 15 minutes Sunday.

It didn't matter with Russell Wilson overcoming all of Seattle's fourth quarter mistakes.

"It all got erased because our guys rallied and finished the game off," Carroll said.

After seeing a 17-3 fourth-quarter lead evaporate behind Peyton Manning, it was Wilson's turn in the spotlight in overtime.

Wilson passed, scrambled and put Seattle in position for Marshawn Lynch's 6-yard touch-

down run and a 26-20 Seahawks victory.

Wilson never let the ball leave his possession in overtime. After watching Manning tie the game in the final minute of regulation by going 80 yards for a touchdown and two-point conversion without a timeout, the last thing Wilson wanted was to give Denver a chance at Super Bowl retribution.

Wilson was 4-for-6 passing for 35 yards and added 21 yards rushing in overtime. After showing a reluctance to run in regulation, Wilson took off, twice using his legs to covert needed third downs.

And it was capped by Lynch plowing his way to the goal line and diving into the end zone.

"When it wasn't there I knew

I had to fight for it," Wilson said. "Sometimes in a game you have to pick and choose when to stay in there a little bit longer, when to throw it and when to slide. And that's not one of those times, I don't believe."

Wilson finished 24 of 34 for 258 yards and touchdown passes of 39 yards to Ricardo Lockette and 5 yards to Lynch, both late in the first half.

Wilson rushed for 40 yards, most coming in overtime, while Lynch added 88 yards rushing.

Denver and Manning showed resiliency absent in Seattle's 43-8 rout in the Super Bowl. Manning threw a 26-yard touchdown pass to Jacob Tamme with 18 seconds left in regulation and his 2-point conversion pass to Demaryius Thomas to tie the game at 20.

Joe Cool rallies Ravens by Browns

By TOM WITHERS
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — As the game got tighter and time started slipping away from the Ravens, quarterback Joe Flacco only got calmer.

"We call him, 'Joe Cool,'" said wide receiver Steve Smith.

Flacco completed a 32-yard pass to Smith in the final two minutes to set up a 32-yard field goal by Justin Tucker on the game's final play, rallying Baltimore to a 23-21 win over the Cleveland Browns on Sunday.

Getting the ball back at mid-field with 1:58 left and the Ravens "staring 1-2 in the face," as he described his team's predicament, Flacco dropped a perfectly thrown pass to Smith, who got behind Pro Bowl cornerback Joe Haden.

After Flacco put the clock down to 4 seconds, Tucker split the uprights as time expired to give the

Ravens, who can't seem to spin away from the Ray Rice scandal, their second straight win over an AFC North opponent after beating Pittsburgh 10 days earlier.

Flacco improved to 12-1 against the Browns (1-2), who have several chances to put the Ravens away and will spend their bye week stewing over countless mistakes.

Cleveland couldn't finish the job, so Flacco did.

"When you're in the moment, it's tough not to be calm," Flacco said. "You just react and you're playing. Everything happens so quick out there you just keep playing. That's all I mean with experience with it so it's kind of tough not to be calm and play."

The Ravens haven't let the lingering questions about their handling of Rice's arrest and suspension for domestic violence affect them. At least not on the field. "There's always going to be in life, challenges and attacks and

consequences and all those kinds of things that we'll talk about I'm sure probably this week and on-going forever," coach John Harbaugh said. "You just gotta stand up, be accountable and be who you are and try to stand for the right things. And our guys do that."

The Browns missed an opportunity to enter the bye with a winning record and have only themselves to blame. They botched two field goals — one was missed, the other blocked by Ravens cornerback Asa Jackson — in the fourth quarter and committed 12 penalties and completely unraveled on offense in the closing minutes.

"It's going to be a long two weeks," said quarterback Brian Hoyer, who went 19 of 25 for 290 yards and a touchdown. "I know we're going to watch this film and be mad at ourselves. We had some opportunities to put this game away and we didn't do it. It's on us."

NFL ROUNDUP



16



9

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — New England needed a last-minute defensive play to bail out a sluggish offense and hold on for a victory over winless Oakland.

Tom Brady threw a touchdown pass, Stephen Gostkowski kicked three field goals and 325-pound tackle Vince Wilfork intercepted a pass near his goal line to end Oakland's final chance.

That gave the Patriots the ball with 51 seconds left after Logan Ryan jarred it loose from intended receiver Denarius Moore. On the previous play, Darren McFadden's 6-year puntless tying run into the end zone was nullified by a holding penalty against guard Gabe Jackson. That put the ball at the 16.

Ryan redeemed himself for a pass interference penalty on the play before McFadden's run.

The Patriots won their 12th home opener in 13 seasons, while the Raiders (0-3) lost their 15th straight game in the Eastern time zone. They were held to three field goals by Sebastian Janikowski.

Brady became the third quarterback with 150 regular-season wins behind Brett Favre (186) and Peyton Manning, who came into Sunday with 169. He is 5-5 in his last 62 home games, including the playoffs.

The Patriots scored 10 points in the last 4:14 of the second quarter to take a 10-3 lead. Brady capped a 15-play, 84-yard drive with a 6-yard touchdown pass to Rob Gronkowski, who shook off linebacker Kaluka Maiava and caught the ball as he went over the middle.

The Patriots (2-1) had a chance for another touchdown when they reached the 2-yard line with 8 seconds left in the half. But Dan Connolly's snap was low and Brady picked it up and quickly threw an incomplection, stopping the clock with 3 seconds remaining. Gostkowski then kicked a 21-yard field goal.



44



17

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Andrew Luck was 31-for-39 for 370 yards and four TDs as Indianapolis dominated Jacksonville for its first win. It was a home opener to forget for the Jaguars, who trailed 30-0 at the break and benched quarterback Blake Bortles.

The only positive for Jacksonville was getting rookie Blake Bortles on the field. The third overall pick in May's NFL draft played the entire second half, finishing with two touchdown passes and two interceptions. He completed 14 of 24 passes for 223 yards, including four-quarter scores to Allen Hurns and Cecil Shorts III.



BILL HAGER/AP

Minnesota Vikings rookie quarterback Teddy Bridgewater (5) scrambles under pressure from New Orleans Saints defensive end Glenn Foster (97) in the second half of Sunday's game in New Orleans. Bridgewater replaced injured starter Matt Cassel, but couldn't engineer a win. The Saints won 20-9.



33



7



34



15



19



7

CINCINNATI — Andy Dalton caught a touchdown pass — the first Bengals quarterback to pull off that feat — and Cincinnati stayed undefeated with a victory over Tennessee.

The Bengals head into their bye week with their best start in eight years and a chance to get some of their many injured players healthy. They got a lot of big plays, a few breaks and plenty of help from a team dealing with the death of a long-time player.

A few hours before kickoff, the Titans learned that kicker Rob Bironas had died overnight in a car crash in Nashville. He'd been released in March after his ninth season with Tennessee.



20



9

NEW ORLEANS — Drew Brees passed for 293 yards and two touchdowns as the New Orleans Saints won for the first time this season, taking their home opener against Minnesota.

Minnesota lost starting quarterback Matt Cassel with a toe injury early in the second quarter. He was replaced by rookie Teddy Bridgewater, who completed 12 of 20 for 150 yards while leading two scoring drives that both ended with field goals.

Brees' scoring passes went for 34 yards to tight end Josh Hill and 18 yards to receiver Marques Colston. It was the 64th time Brees and Colston connected for a score. Only six other quarterback-receiver tandems have combined for more in NFL history.

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. — Alex Smith shook off five sacks to throw three touchdown passes and help Kansas City earn its first victory by beating Miami.

Smith led touchdown drives of 62, 76 and 66 yards in a span of four possessions as Kansas City took leads of 14-0 and 21-10.

Smith went 19 for 25 for 186 yards. He threw scoring passes of 11 and 4 yards to Joe McKnight and 20 yards to Travis Kelce.

The Chiefs were without seven starters, including running back Jamaal Charles, who was inactive because of a high ankle sprain. Knile Davis, subbing for Charles, rushed for a career-high 132 yards and a touchdown on 32 carries.



22



10

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — A week after throwing three touchdown passes to tight end Antonio Gates to knock off the Seattle Seahawks, San Diego's Philip Rivers hit Eddie Royal for two scores in a win over Buffalo.

Royal scored on 3- and 5-yard receptions and finished with four catches 42 yards. Malcolm Floyd had two catches for 98 yards in a game the Chargers never trailed. Rivers finished 18 of 25 for 256 yards and extended his touchdown streak to 23 games to match the team record he set over the 2009-10 seasons.

Fred Jackson scored on an 11-yard catch and run for Buffalo, while blew an opportunity to get off to a 3-0 start for only the third time since 1993.

DETROIT — Don Carey returned a fumble 40 yards for a touchdown, and Detroit's defensive front stuffed Green Bay, leading the Lions over Aaron Rodgers and the Packers.

Rodgers under constant pressure by the Lions' secondary. He was sacked twice and threw for only 162 yards, and Green Bay wasn't any better when running the ball.

Reggie Bush added a 26-yard scoring run in the fourth quarter for Detroit, which had never beaten Green Bay with Rodgers healthy for the whole game.

The Packers managed only 223 yards of offense and lost despite forcing three turnovers.



37



19

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Ben Roethlisberger threw two 7-yard touchdown passes to Antonio Brown and Le'Veon Bell ran for 147 yards as Pittsburgh beat Carolina.

The Steelers had gone eight quarters without a touchdown before Roethlisberger's two scoring strikes in the third. They were set up by Cam Newton's fumble and Bell's 81-yard run.

Roethlisberger finished 22-for-30 for 196 yards, and Brown had 90 yards receiving on 10 catches to help the Steelers end Carolina's eight-game home winning streak.

LeGarrette Blount ran for 118 yards and the Steelers outtrushed the Panthers 264-42.

The Panthers were looking for their first 3-0 start since 2003.



34



31

ST. LOUIS — Terrance Williams scored the go-ahead touchdown late in the fourth quarter, but Bruce Carter returned an interception 25 yards for a TD on the next snap, capping the Cowboys' comeback from a 21-0 deficit to stun St. Louis.

DeMarco Murray's 1-yard run late in the first half began the rally for Dallas (2-1). Dez Bryant caught a 68-yard scoring pass in the third quarter, and Carter's first career interception and touchdown came not long after he was evaluated for concussion-like symptoms on the bench.

Dallas also rallied from a 21-point deficit in overtime in 1984 against New Orleans and 1999 against Washington. It tied the second-largest lead blown by the Rams, who ousted Murray but got burned everywhere else.

St. Louis is 0-2 at home and was whipped 34-6 by Minnesota in the opener.

Murray had 100 yards on 24 carries and lost a fumble for the fourth straight game dating to last season, even after switching from carrying the ball on his left side to the right. He set a franchise record with 253 yards against St. Louis in 2011 and had 175 yards last season.

Janoris Jenkins' 25-yard interception return, the fifth defensive touchdown in his three seasons, put the Rams (1-2) up 21-0 with 6:06 to go in the first half.

Tony Romo was 4-for-5 for 40 yards and scrambled 16 yards on third-and-13 on the go-ahead drive. His second-half play overshadowed a third costly interception of the year.



30



17

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Rashad Jennings ran for a career-high 176 yards and a touchdown and Eli Manning threw two TD passes as New York overcame some early mistakes and beat the suddenly error-prone Houston.

The victory not only put some life back into the Giants after two disappointing losses, it also ended any chance of a second straight horrible start for Tom Coughlin's team which opened 0-6 last season.

Victor Cruz made a 26-yard touchdown catch, his first since Game 4 of last season. The defense intercepted three of Ryan Fitzpatrick's passes, and the special teams blocked a punt, setting up Manning's second TD.

Fitzpatrick threw a 44-yard scoring pass to Damaris Johnson and ran for another score for the Texans, who played without halfback Arian Foster (hamstring).

AUTO RACING

Hamlin suffers blow to Cup title chances

By DAN GELSTON
The Associated Press

LOUDON, N.H. — Denny Hamlin folded his arms in the New Hampshire garage, stared at the big screen and watched teammate Kyle Busch hit the wall.

It just seemed like one bad continuous replay for Joe Gibbs Racing.

Hamlin's battered No. 11 was able to limp back on the track.

His championship hopes might not survive.

Hamlin's Chase for the Sprint Cup Championship bid took a major tumble Sunday when a slew of problems hit his car, from fuel issues that left him fuming on pit road to a multiaxle wreck that knocked him out of the race.

"You know on performance, you deserve to move on," Hamlin said. "We wouldn't have a great shot to move on and really make some noise here in these last eight races. In this three-race section, you can't have one bad week. Not right now. You've got to be flawless. You've got to be at your best the last 10."

Hamlin dropped from a tie for sixth in the standings to 13th and is among the bottom four drivers, who could be eliminated from the Chase after next week's race at Dover. NASCAR this year switched to an elimination format and four drivers will be knocked out after every third race.

With a season-high 15 cautions, the green flag caused chaos for a chunk of the Chase field.

"I hate to say it, but maybe some guys get some trouble and let us back in it," Hamlin said during the race. "Other than that, it's going to be hard for us to do it without some help."

JGR drivers Hamlin, Busch and Matt Kenseth were among a slew of Chase drivers who couldn't escape the carnage on the track. Kurt Busch's No. 41 blew a right front tire and spiraled into the wall. Dale Earnhardt Jr. suffered from a loose wheel. Kasey Kahne's crew pounded down damage on the No. 5 on a pit stop. Kenseth



Chase standings

Points standings in NASCAR's Sprint Cup Chase for the Championship after Sunday's Sylvania 300 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway, in Loudon, N.H. (Second race of 10; top 12 drivers advance after third race):

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 1. Brad Keselowski | 2,097 |
| 2. Joey Logano | 2,096 |
| 3. Kevin Harvick | 2,090 |
| 4. Jimmie Johnson | 2,080 |
| 5. Kyle Busch | 2,077 |
| 6. Dale Earnhardt Jr. | 2,077 |
| 7. Jeff Gordon | 2,070 |
| 8. Matt Kenseth | 2,057 |
| 9. Carl Edwards | 2,057 |
| 10. AJ Allmendinger | 2,056 |
| 11. Kasey Kahne | 2,055 |
| 12. Ryan Newman | 2,055 |
| 13. Denny Hamlin | 2,049 |
| 14. Greg Biffle | 2,049 |
| 15. Kurt Busch | 2,047 |
| 16. Aric Almirola | 2,045 |



JIM COLE/AP

Joey Logano, left, pulls out of the pits ahead of Brad Keselowski during the Sprint Cup series race at New Hampshire Motor Speedway on Sunday in Loudon, N.H. Logano won and will advance in the Chase.

Logano wins 2nd Chase race for Penske on home track

By DAN GELSTON
The Associated Press

LOUDON, N.H. — Raised in Connecticut, Joey Logano always considered New Hampshire his home track, the one where he dreamed of being bathed in confetti in Victory Lane and flocked by family and friends.

For Logano, the track about 75 miles outside of Boston was his version of Daytona.

Winning at New Hampshire could mean a bit more to him than a boyhood fantasy fulfilled when the season ends — it could be Logano's launching pad for his first NASCAR championship.

Logano helped Team Penske strengthen its grip as the organization to beat for the championship, pulling away on an overtime restart to win Sunday at New Hampshire Motor Speedway and advance to the second round of the Chase for the Sprint Cup Championship.

Make it 2-for-2 for Team Penske in the Chase.

"We're doing what we've got to do to win this thing right now," Logano said.

Logano and teammate Brad Keselowski, who won the Chase opener at Chicagoland, have both advanced to the next round. Four drivers will be eliminated after every third race and a win guarantees a driver an automatic berth into the next round. The first cut-off race is next week at Dover International Speedway.

Team Penske will be playing with house money at the Monster Mile. Roger Penske's crew is rolling, winning four of the past five races dating to Bristol and snagging the early lead on the scorecard against Hendrick Motorsports.

"Confidence is high through the 22 team right now, all of Team Penske," Logano said. "All of Team Penske. We feel like we've got some championships to win,



CHEVY SENTER/AP

Joey Logano celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the second race in NASCAR's Chase for the Championship series. The win guarantees Logano a spot in the final 12 drivers.

not only on the Cup side, but Nationwide side. And you've got IndyCar. We're just trying to catch up to them."

Will Power won the IndyCar Series championship for Penske last month.

Logano raced to his fourth victory of the season, leading 73 laps and surviving a NASCAR season-high 15 cautions that wrecked results for several Chase drivers.

He took the lead from Kevin Harvick with 27 laps left and went on to his seventh career Cup win.

Logano attended his first NASCAR race at New Hampshire when he was 5, made his first career Cup start here and won his first race in 2009. But that was a rain-shortened win that always gnawed at Logano. Until he became a regular winner, it was considered a bit of a fluke and the rain meant Logano was denied a traditional victory celebration.

This time, he took No. 22 Ford for the celebratory burnouts and a spin around the track holding the checkered flag.

"I didn't know where Victory

Lane was, actually," Logano said. "I just didn't want to come in. I want to stay out. I never got out in front of all the fans on the front straightaway before. It was just too cool."

Keselowski led 78 laps, hit the wall, and still was in the hunt for a win. The 2012 champion failed in his bid to win a third straight Cup race, though he salvaged a seventh-place finish.

"We certainly have a lot to be proud of, but there's a lot of work to do," Keselowski said.

Keselowski and Logano are 1-2 in the points standings. Denny Hamlin, Greg Biffle, Kurt Busch and Aric Almirola are in the bottom four of the 16-driver field and at risk of getting cut next Sunday at Dover.

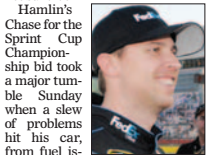
Rookie Kyle Larson was second at New Hampshire for his second top-three finish in two weeks. Chase drivers took seven of the first 10 spots at New Hampshire. Harvick was third, Jimmie Johnson fifth, Almirola sixth, Kyle Busch eighth and Dale Earnhardt Jr. 10th.

"It's not all about winning and losing at this point. It's about advancing," said Harvick, who led a race-high 104 laps.

The staggering number of cautions slowed the 300-mile race and wrecked the chances for several Chase drivers to contend for a win. Joe Gibbs Racing drivers Hamlin and Matt Kenseth; Hendrick Motorsports drivers Jeff Gordon and Kasey Kahne; and Stewart-Haas Racing's Kurt Busch all finished outside of the top 20.

Other Chase drivers included: AJ Allmendinger was 13th, Roush Fenway Racing drivers Biffle and Carl Edwards were 16th and 17th, Ryan Newman 18th, Kenseth 21st, Kahne 23rd, Gordon 26th and Tony Stewart 30th.

About the only sour note was Penske's absence, who skipped the race because of an overseas business trip.



Hamlin



JIM COLE/AP

Denny Hamlin (11) slides into David Ragan (34) as he hits the wall during the Sprint Cup Series Sylvania 300 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway on Sunday in Loudon, N.H. Joey Logano won the race and Hamlin finished 37th.

SPORTS



Atlanta fires GM after failing to make playoffs

Page 27

NFL: WEEK 3 TAKEAWAYS

Comeback kids

Romo, Cowboys pull off most impressive of weekend's multiple winning rallies

Cowboys QB
Tony Romo

TOM GANNAM/AP

The Associated Press

Tony Romo and the Dallas Cowboys were big-time comeback kids in Week 3 of the NFL season.

So were Nick Foles and the Philadelphia Eagles. The Baltimore Ravens, too.

The Cowboys had the biggest comeback of all.

Terrance Williams scored the go-ahead touchdown late in the fourth quarter, Bruce Carter returned an interception 25 yards for a TD on the next snap, and the Cowboys matched the largest comeback in team history to stun the St. Louis Rams 34-31.

DeMarco Murray's 1-yard run late in the first half began the rally for Dallas (2-1), which trailed 21-0.

This marked the fourth time this season a team has overcome a deficit of at least 17 points to win, tied for the most through the first three weeks of a season since the 1970 merger (2011). It was also the first time since 1982 that each of the first three weeks had a rally of at least 17 points.

Romo has 21 comeback victories in the fourth quarter or overtime, a franchise best.

At Philadelphia, Jordan Matthews and veteran Jeremy Maclin again stormed from behind to win, beating the Washington Redskins 37-34 as Matthews caught two touchdown passes and Maclin had one.

The Eagles are the first NFL team to start a season 3-0 after trailing by 10-plus points in each game.

"Man, that was an emotional one," said Matthews, who scored his first NFL touchdowns. "They are close (games), so I know that coach (Chip) Kelly is losing some hair."

At Cleveland, the Ravens pulled off a victory as Justin Tucker kicked a 32-yard field goal as time expired to give Baltimore a 23-21 win over the Cleveland Browns.

Catching on

If you haven't seen 'em, go find 'em online — a pair of catches by QBs. Yes, catches by QBs. Cincinnati's Andy Dalton became the first NFL quarterback to grab a TD

SEE KIDS ON PAGE 27

Ravens receiver Steve Smith, left, catches a pass to set up the game-winning field goal on Sunday.

TONY DEJAK/AP

